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South and East Asia Report

No. 862

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JAPANESE TO DISCUSS FEASIBILITY OF THAI STEEL MILL

Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 8 Dec 79

[Text] Tokyo 8 Dec, KYODO--A government-sponsored mission will leave for Bangkok December 17 for talks with Thai Government officials on construction of a steel plant, a week later than scheduled earlier, government sources said Saturday.

The group of officials from major steelmakers will report to the Thai Government on feasibility studies on the projected steel mill designed to be powered by natural gas produced in the Gulf of Thailand.

At the Thai Government's request, the government-run Japan International Cooperation Agency sent a mission to Thailand last spring to look into the commercial viability of the project. The feasibility study report calls for investment of some dollar 1.4 billion on the first phase of construction of the integrated steel plant with an annual production capacity of 1.3 million tons of crude steel.

A hot-strip mill of the plant will have an annual capacity of 1.15 million tons of hot-rolled coils.

The investment will translate into an ingot production cost of dollar 1,140 per ton. Production capacity will eventually be raised to 3 million tons of crude steel and 1.8 million tons of hot coils. Under present plans, a cold-strip mill with an annual capacity of 800,000 tons will be built following completion of the initial phase of construction.

A feasibility study report submitted earlier by West Germany envisions spending dollar 1.6 billion on the project, dollar 200 million more than the Japanese estimate. Discussions between the mission and Thai officials will be limited to the results of the survey and are not expected to go into financial assistance. Thailand will build pipelines to carry natural gas from offshore deposits to Bangkok.

In a move to better utilize the gas supply, the Thai Government is pressing for construction of the steel plant with technical and financial assistance from Japan. The mission includes officials from Nippon Steel Corp. and four other steelmakers and the Japan Iron and Steel Federation.

CSO: 4220

SINO-INDIAN COOPERATION IN BIO-GAS LIKELY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 11 Dec 79 p 5

[Text] Bonn, Dec. 10--India and China are likely to cooperate in developing bio-gas technology and to help transfer it to other developing nations, reports UNI.

Plans for cooperation between the two Asian countries and West Germany in the development of this alternative energy source have been disclosed here.

The plans, prepared by Indian and West German experts after the international bio-gas conference held in Bremen in July, include the setting up of an international bio-gas training centre at Nasik, near Bombay, where Indian and other Third World personnel will be trained in the new technology.

The training centre is expected to start functioning next year, according to Mr Gunther Hilliges, Senator for Economics and Foreign trade at the Bremen Senate who has just returned here after a visit to India.

As part of the programme, 10,000 gobar gas units will be set up in three or four areas in Maharashtra. The areas are to be selected by Indian officials.

The project is estimated to cost Rs 6.5 crores and it will be shared by the Indian and West German Governments.

The West German Ministry of Economic Cooperation in Bonn is prepared to contribute Rs 4.5 million for the project. The Indian Government, however, has to make a formal application to the Bonn Government for this purpose.

The Department of Power in the Ministry of Energy had approved the project Mr Hilliges said. He added that China had shown "very keen interest" in the programme and a team of Indian and West German bio-gas experts would visit Beijing in January for further discussions with Chinese officials.

The setting up of an international bio-gas training centre in India would be a major step forward in south-to-south technology transfer, Mr Hilliges said.

A very significant beginning was already made in this direction when India's gobargas technology was successfully transferred to Ethiopia.

The Bremen Senate, which has been financing a research programme involving 150 gobar gas units in Maharashtra, plans to take up 12 villages every year in a new programme to be launched in the State in January.

This programme is estimated to cost Rs 50 lakhs and it will be financed by the Bremen Overseas Research and Development organization and the Federal Agency for Technical Cooperation in Frankfurt. A one year feasibility study will be undertaken to find out which are the villages suitable for the programme, depending on how active the farmers are.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

JAPANESE AID TO THAILAND--Tokyo Nov 20--Japan will extend grant aid totaling yen 2.8 billion to Thailand to assist in the country's agricultural and fishery projects, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. Notes on the aid were exchanged in Bangkok Monday by Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Hitomi and Xujati Prammopol, director general of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation in the prime minster's office. Under the arrangements, yen 2 billion will be set aside to supply fertilizer for increased rice production, Foreign Ministry officials said. They said the remaining yen 800 million would be used to furnish the administrative and research buildings, a dormitory for trainees, and fish breeding and hatching facilities at a coastal aquaculture center at Songkhla. [Tokyo KYODO in English 0204 GMT 20 Nov 79 OW]

LAOS GREETINGS TO KAMPUCHEAN BUDDHISTS--Vientiane, 3 Dec (KPL)--Superior Monk Thongkhoun Anantasounthon, president of the Lao Unified Buddhist Association, on November 30 sent a message to the Kampuchean Buddhist Association in Phnom Penh greeting the first anniversary of the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation (December 2). The message expresses solidarity with the Kampuchean Buddhists and people in the task of national defence and construction in peace, independence, democracy, neutrality and nonalignment and along socialist lines. [Text] [BK051523 Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 3 Dec 79 BK]

THAI-MALAYSIA AGREEMENT-Thailand and Malaysia on 24 November signed an agreement under which perishable goods transported by road from Thailand to Singapore via Malaysia will be exempted from taxation. The agreement allows a tax free privilege for Thai goods transported in refrigerated vans through Malaysian territory. A permanent joint committee comprising officials from both governments will be set up to supervise the transit of goods as agreed. [BK281321 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 26 Nov 79 BK]

BHUTAN-XIZANG BORDER ISSUE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 26 Nov 79 p 5

[Text]

THIMPHU, Nov. 25.—Bhutan has no immediate intention of taking up with China the question of demarcating its 470-km border with Xizang, reports PTI.

"The stage has not yet come to discuss the border issue with China". Mr Dawa Tsering, Bhutan's Foreign Minister, told reporters here.

He said: "There is no dispute as far as we are concerned. It is only undemarcated".

The Bhutanese king, Jigme Singye Wangchuk, however, sounded a note of caution when he said in an interview with PTI, that "we cannot afford to keep a border undemarcated. When we have a large neighbour, it is not in the interest of small Bhutan to leave the border undemarcated. It is dangerous for security".

While no timetable or modality to demarcate the border with Xizang has been drawn up, Bhutan is preparing its case by collecting old records, maps and data, besides carrying out research on the subject.

The Foreign Minister said: "India has been helping us in the survey. We do not have any intention of making false claims.

"We want to secure records, documents and maps to find out where exactly the Bhutan-Xizang border is. This process of collecting data has been going on for some time".

Bhutan has a total land area of 18,000 square miles. The border with Xizang is in the district of Ha and in the Chumbi Valley, near Nathu La in Sikkim.

"We do not anticipate any major problems to arrive at a mutually-acceptable agreement, since we have no border dispute as such. There is no legacy of bitterness or conflict" Mr Tsering said.

Asked if China had sounded his Government to demarcate the border with Xizang, Mr Tsering said: "China has not approached us yet. Nor have we approached China. We are not in a hurry. What is important for us is to collect adequate data to know where exactly our border is".

The King said it was too premature to think of the modality to demarcate the border with Xizang. "It depends on the Cabinet, and the final decision will come from the National Assembly. I am not in a position to say anything unilaterally. May be, 20 years ago I could have done so".

CSO: 4220

REBEL TRIBALS MOVE IN NORTH-EAST

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Nov 79 pp 1, 9

[Text] Efforts are being made by rebel tribals of Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura to coordinate their activities in North-eastern India.

The first indication of this move was available at a rally organized by the Tripur Sena, the extremist wing of the Tripura Upajati Juba Samity, which was attended by representatives from Nagaland and Mizoram. The speeches made by self-styled Captain Sailo, president of the Mizo People's Organization, and others had the common theme that tribals must "unite to fight our common enemy."

The Agartala rally was followed by meetings in Kohima and elsewhere. It is in line with this move that tribal villagers in Jampu Hills, on the border of Tripura and Mizoram, have begun giving shelter to Mizo rebels. About 3,000 rebels are reported to be there at present.

The villages in Jampu Hills are used by Mizo rebels as shelter during their retreat to the Chittagong Hill Tracts. It is believed that they utilize this period to incite the tribals of Tripura to begin an insurgent movement.

Not that the Tripuri tribals, particularly the young men, need much incitement to follow their breathren in other North-eastern States. There is every sign of the Tripur Sena gaining ground in the State, and it seems unlikely that Tripura will be able to avoid the insurgency activities that disturb life in its neighboring States. Tripura's geographical location will make it difficult for the State to avoid such disturbances.

The growth of the Tripur Sena is attributed by sources here to the increase in the activities of a section of the Church. These missionaries organize schools among tribals, feed students and arrange for their medical care. Their activities, these sources suspect, do not end there as is evident from pamphlets preaching "To Christ through People's Movements' that are circulated among tribals. The leader of the Sena is Mr B. Rankhol, a Christian.

It appeals strange that the authorities in Tripura had failed to notice that an extremist wing like the Tripur Sena was being formed within the Tripura Upajati Juba Samity. The Chief Minister, Mr Nripen Chakravorty, who has worked among tribals for a long period, said: "The same thing has happened with Naxalites. Our party has failed to realize that an extremist group was working within the organization till such time as they came out in the open. But while we were prompt in throwing it out, the Samity is yet to take action against the Tripur Sena.

The Samity presumably has its own problems. Even if it wants to take any measure against the Sena, it cannot do so for fear of alienating a large number of tribal young men. The Samity says it is prepared to take action against Mr Rankhol only if the Government can prove in a court of law the charges it has brought against him.

The tribals' aspirations in Tripura got a fillip with the passage of the autonomous Council Bill. While it is in keeping with the provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, the Tripur Sena has been telling the tribals. Look, you threatened a movement and the Bill was passed. Now, you apply further force and we can proceed from autonomy to further concessions."

Unlike those in neighboring States, most of the tribals in Tripura are Hindus. According to reports available with the authorities, they are being told to adopt Christianity, "a religion which has injected vigor into people in Nagaland and Mizoram." Christianity, as practiced in this region, is a curious mixture of Christ and traditional rituals and the tribals really do not mind embracing it.

While blaming the Church for turning tribals into rebels, the authorities in Tripura cannot absolve itself of its responsibility. It may very well be asked why the missionaries were not prevented from doing the things they are now being accused of. There can be no disputing the fact that the tribals have received service from the Church which no other agency gave them. Also, as the people from plains, mostly Bengalis, grow in number, the tribals' sense of insecurity deepens which makes them easy prey to propaganda.

Like other tribal insurgent groups, the Tripur Sena is building hiding places in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, where the Chakma tribals operate. The Chakmas being Buddhists have a greater affinity to the Tripuris than with members of the Mizo National Front all of whom are Christians. Thus it is feared that if the MNF has found it difficult to coordinate its activities with those of the Chakmas, who are fighting the Bangladesh Government, no such difficulty will be faced by the Tripur Sena.

Sources here point out that it is this danger that the Bangladesh Government seems unaware of. While it shuts its eye to the Tripur Sena operating from the hill tracts it apparently fails to realize that the combined

strength of the Chakmas and the Tripur Sena will be to its disadvantage.

Meanwhile, extremism among tribals in Tripura is being matched by another type of extremism practiced by the Amra Bangali. The State Government is finding itself at the receiving end of the attacks from both groups, each accusing it of being partial to the other.

The Chief Minister is, however, not perturbed because he feels that the policies of his party will prevent people from being influenced by either group. And even his opponents admit that the situation in Tripura could have been worse "but for the personality and efforts of the Chief Minister.

CSO: 4220

DVC UNIT BREAKDOWN HITS POWER SUPPLY TO MINES

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Nov 79 pp 1, 9

[Text] Power supply to coal mines declined again since Monday evening because of a breakdown in a generating unit of the Damodar Valley Corporation at Durgapur, Coal India sources said in Calcutta on Tuesday. DVC sources said that there was no chance of much improvement within a month.

Most parts of Calcutta experienced several hours of power cuts on Tuesday. Shortfall in power supply in Calcutta was 110 MW on Tuesday morning and 94 MW in the evening. The DVC supplied 26 MW to Calcutta in the morning and 15 MW in the evening. Shortfall in supply in areas served by the State Electricity Board was 36 MW in the evening.

A spokesman of the Eastern Coalfields complained that repeated power cuts had proved disastrous in the Eastern Coalfield mines power supply went off 14 times on Monday and in the Bharat Coking Coal areas 27 times. On Monday, output in the Eastern Coalfield mines fell to 59,000 tonnes from the normal daily production of 85,000 tonnes. Mines in the Eastern Coalfield and Bharat Coking Coal areas together lost 770 working hours on Monday, Coal India sources added.

The cutback in production is hampering coal supply to steel plants, power plants, the railways and other units which depend on a boiler for production. Coal India sources said that when there was a power cut in deep and gassy mines, miners had to be brought out from the pits. The ventilation system was electrically operated. Most of the mines in the Eastern Coalfield and Bharat Coking Coal areas were deep and the pits were full of sub-soil water. Pumps had to be operated to drain out the water when mining was in progress. Power cuts threatened the security of the miners.

DVC sources said that its power generation had fallen to a precariously low level mainly because of two factors--closing down of two major units for overhauling and the suspension of hydel generation because of severe drought. The third unit of the DVC at Durgapur, a sophisticated plant with a capacity of 120 MW was shut down a month ago for overhauling, which was due more

than a year ago. A unit at Chandrapura had also been closed for overhauling. These were not likely to resume generation before a month. The second unit at Durgapur, which broke down on Monday afternoon, might resume generation in about four days. It had been recommissioned recently after repair of a boiler tube leakage. The generation of the DVC came down to 525 MW on Tuesday evening.

The DVC had an hydel generating capacity of 104 MW. As a result of scanty rainfall in the catchment areas, the water level at the dams had come down to the "deadstorage" level. No water could be discharged from the dams. A special committee was considering the possibility of restricting water supply from the dams for other purposes so that water might be made available to cultivators during the cropping season. Water supply to industries might be cut drastically. Water supply to Asansol for domestic consumption might also be affected.

The sources said that suspension of water supply from Tenughat in Bihar to the Panchet dam have aggravated the situation. They feared that a further rise in the water rate from Tenughat was on the cards. The rate is now 68 paise a thousand gallons. The DVC sold water to industries at the rate of 15 paise a thousand gallons. It was apprehended that an agreement between West Bengal and Bihar to divert water from the Tilaya and Konar dams for agricultural use in Bihar might reduce the water stock at the Panchet dam next year. Tenughat was an important source of water for Panchet during the dry season.

Meanwhile, representatives of Coal India met the West Bengal Chief Secretary on Tuesday to discuss the coal crisis. The West Bengal Government was reported to have agreed to supply between 20 MW and 40 MW to Coal India.

CSO: 4220

NEW TANK BEING DESIGNED

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Nov 79 p 10

[Text] The Defense Minister, Mr. C. Subramaniam, said today that the improved version of the Vijayanta tank, would be ready for use by the defense forces in the 1990s. The Combat Vehicle Research Centre, Avadi, had developed an engine to be mounted in the tank.

Mr. Subramaniam, who visited the Heavy Vehicle Factory at Avadi told newsmen that no firm date had been fixed for the first tank to be rolled out. He estimated that it would be possible within a few years to put it on its initial trials.

He said the HVF with an investment of Rs. 26 crores had now reached an annual turnover of Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 crores. The HVF officers had succeeded in indigenising several components involving high technology and had set in motion measures to develop 30 items not available in the country. These were mainly complicated bearings, sophisticated instruments and control cables.

The indigenous components now formed over 96 percent. The CVRD assisted the HVF in design development, he said.

It was essential that the country's needs during the 1990s should be kept in view when designing a new tank. Even in this age of missiles, the tank as a weapon would still have a vital role to play and research was being continued.

Doubts about the firepower, mobility and strength of the Vijayanta were 'ill informed; Mr Subramaniam said. While these capabilities might not be superior to the latest version of the Soviet T-72 and the American tanks, the Vijayanta had proved its worth and reliability in the 1971 war.

Referring to the manufacture of submarines, Mr. Subramaniam said the Defense Ministry officers were in touch with five companies in West Germany, Sweden and Italy. The idea was to import one submarine and later produce it under license. All preparatory work would be completed to enable the new Central Government after the elections to take a quick decision.

The Gas Turbine Research Institute at Bangalore had developed an engine which would be fitted in the British Jaguar combat aircraft. This would improve its operational capabilities.

Replying to questions, Mr. Subramaniam said he felt trade unionism should not be introduced in defense production units. The performance of these units ranged from very good to very bad. Lack of adequate power, managerial difficulties, labor relations and raw material shortage were the main causes.

The Defense Ministry had drawn up short-term measures and long-term plans to ensure that a total systems concept was developed to ensure uninterrupted production.

He was also having discussions with the Minister for Energy to find out ways to ensure continuous power supply to feed the defense units.

The Minister who was accompanied by Maj. Gen. S. P. Mahadevan, G.OC ATNK and K area was received on arrival at HVF by its General Manager, Mr C. Madhavan.

Mr. Subramaniam watched a Vijayanta tank doing battle maneuvers at the tank testing grounds.

The tank was driven by the Factory's test driver Gian Singh, an ex-serviceman.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

BRITISH AID FOR BANKNOTE MILL--Britain is to provide 4,000,000 pounds sterling or grant aid towards the cost of modernizing India's banknote paper mill at Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh, the British Overseas Development Administration announced Thursday. The aid will be used to purchase British papermaking equipment and project management services to expand the mill's capacity from 3,300 to 6,000 tons of this specialized paper a year to meet the nationwide growth in demand for banknotes. The project is expected to be completed by the end of next year. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 2 Dec 79 p 6]

VERTICAL TAKEOFF PLANES--An agreement for acquisition of vertical takeoff Sea Harriers for Indian Navy's aircraft carrier Vikrant, was signed here today between the Government of India and the British manufacturers of the aircraft, Hawker Siddley. The Hawker Siddley is owned by the British Government. The signing was done at the Defense Ministry. Although the Defense Ministry declined to give any details, it is understood that initially half a squadron, including a trainer-type and a reserve plane, would be acquired. The jump-jet strike and reconnaissance aircraft, considered to be the most sophisticated and modern would replace the now obsolete Sea Hawks and Alizes. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Nov 79 p 9]

STARVATION DEATHS REPORTED--Twenty-four people are reported to have died of starvation in Uttar Pradesh owing to near-famine conditions prevailing in the drought-hit districts of the State, according to unofficial reports, says PTI. The deaths have been reported from the remote areas of Mirzapur, Basti Gonda, Ghazipur, Banda and Bareilly. The drought, the worst in the State in this century, have affected all the 56 districts of the State. The State Government has asked for a Rs 600-crore loan to tide over the situation. The reports of the deaths have also been verified by political leaders, including the former Foreign Minister, Mr A. B. Vajpayee, on the basis of independent inquiries. The reports had, however, been denied by the State Government. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 20 Nov 79 p 13]

RAM JANATA'S LEADER--New Delhi, Nov 27.--The Janata Party's manifesto is learnt to have made clear once and for all that Mr Jagjivan Ram will be Prime Minister in case the party is voted to power. The manifesto mentions specifically that Janata is fighting the elections under the leadership of Mr Jagjivan Ram "to complete the unfinished task of social and economic reconstruction." [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Nov 79 p 1]

CSO: 4220

WEST LOWER SUNDAS FACE FOOD SHORTAGE

Japan Sending Powdered Milk

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 13 Oct 79 p 3

[Excerpts] Mataram, 10 October. Some villages in six regencies in the West Lower Sundas are again facing food shortages, as a result of attack by hama, and low purchasing power by the population.

On 29 September, before leaving on a pilgrimage to Mecca, West Lower Sundas Governor Gatot Soeherman asked at a coordinating session that the regents pay close attention to food stocks in their respective areas, and provide information to the West Lower Sundas Logistic Bureau's chief, so that rice can be distributed where it is needed.

The governor expects that labor-intensive projects will be implemented immediately in areas with low purchasing power. He wants these projects arranged in Region Level I and Region Level II areas so as to provide work during the pre-harvest shortage period.

He asked that in critical areas, the regents monitor the situation closely during the pre-harvest shortage season, so that when symptoms of food shortage occur, they can be dealt with as quickly as possible.

Referring to the 50 tons of powdered milk from Japan, via the Directorate General for Social Aid of the Department of Social Affairs, he asked that the regents give close attention to warehouses in the subdistricts; an apparatus for distribution; administration; accounting; and supervision.

The Japanese powdered milk is earmarked for areas short of food; for poor children under 5; poor pregnant women; and victims of natural disasters, as well as to reformatories. It is estimated that every person will get 75 grams per day for 30 days.

That 50 tons of aid will be divided among 22,000 persons. The allotment, respectively, is 7,420 kilograms for 3,200 persons in West Lombok; 9,225 kilograms for 4,200 people in Central Lombok; 6,975 kilograms for 3,100 people in Sumbawa Regency; 7,425 kilograms for 3,300 people in Dompu Regency; and 9,675 kilograms for 4,300 people in Bima.

According to information obtained by SINAR HARAPAN, the food shortage is most severe in Bima Regency, particularly in the Prado area.

Another critical area is South Lombok, where reports of food shortage have been received from Praya West and Praya East in Central Lombok, and from Keruak Regency, East Lombok. Information from Keruak Regency indicates drought has affected 8,000 hectares of rice land.

Meanwhile, the population lacks buying power; although the West Lower Sundas Logistics Depot has distributed rice at an inexpensive price of 150 rupiahs per kilogram, the people in those areas are generally unable to afford it.

Over 14,000 Families Threatened

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 23 Oct 79 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] Mataram, 20 October. Central Lombok Regent Parwoto reported Friday morning that around 14,000 families in his area are threatened by food shortage; that total will rise by 14 percent in November.

The regent conveyed this report to Vice Minister for Cooperatives/Chief of the Logistics Board Bustanil Arifin, who inspected several subdistricts in Lombok after signing documents for American and Canadian aid for village cooperative projects in Aikmel, East Lombok.

The regent indicated that total would fall by 5 percent in December, when the second crop is harvested, but will rise again from January-March, so that 20,000 families will be faced with food shortages by the end of March, 1980.

The chief of the Logistics Board has promised that 500 tons of rice would be distributed from the warehouses of the Central Lombok Logistics Depot at low prices. That rice is on hand, and can be obtained at any time. The rice will not be distributed free, but at inexpensive prices.

It was reported that there are 17 tons of rice reserves in Lumbung Kemakmuran, Central Lombok, which will be readied against the critical shortage in November, since the people cannot work the fields.

Since alternative work is limited, the Government is expected to immediately begin labor intensive projects, such as the needed construction of a 75-kilometer paved road in Praya East.

Meanwhile, the chief of the Central Lombok Health Service, Dr Kardjono, reported the receipt of 11 tons of powdered milk in Japanese aid. Its use will take 2.6 tons of granulated sugar.

Bustanil Arifin has agreed to give 12.5 tons of sugar free for the 50 tons of powdered milk from Japan.

The six subdistricts threatened by food shortage in Central Lombok are Praya, Praya East, Praya West, Janapria, Kopang and Pujut. The food shortage is presently very acute, following an attack by locusts, and the livelihood of the inhabitants is uncertain. Return to the rice fields is not possible, since there is no water, as a result of the long dry season.

9197
CSO: 4213

FOUR THOUSAND POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED

Divided in Two Groups

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 25 Sep 79 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] By the end of November 1979, there will no longer be any 30 September Movement/Indonesian Communist Party (G30S/PKI) prisoners on Buru Island. That site will be used for transmigration. In 1979/80, 2,000 transmigrant families will be settled there. Other inhabitants include former prisoners who do not wish to return to Java, and voluntarily intend to remain on Buru as transmigrants.

Maj Gen Abdul Aziz, territorial assistant of the Command for Restoration of Security and Order, explained this to the press after attending a ceremony freeing 4,000 Category B G30S/PKI prisoners in the Olahraga Gelora Pancasila Building, Surabaya, yesterday morning.

Phase I/1979 involved the return to society of 1,259 Category B prisoners in April. Phase II/1979, in September, involves the release of 4,000 rehabilitated Category B prisoners.

Of those freed yesterday, 898 will return to their families in East Java; 3,101 to Central Java and Yogyakarta Special District; and one to Bali.

According to Maj Gen Aziz, the cargo capacity of the vessel which will bring the prisoners from Buru to Java is very limited. Thus, the Phase II/1979 prisoners will be transported in two groups. The first group arrived yesterday, 24 September, and was freed that day. The second group is expected to arrive in Surabaya on 8 October; all 2,000 prisoners in that group are returning to Central Java and Yogyakarta Special District. According to plans, the second group will be freed on 10 October.

Meanwhile, Phase III and Phase IV prisoners will be freed in November and December.

Maj Gen Abdul Aziz said that between April and September, there were changes in the numbers of remaining prisoners in all categories, due to the release

of Category Y prisoners remaining on Buru. In April 1979, following the release of Phase I prisoners, there were 8,303 left.

This total included 527 Category A prisoners; 1,598 Category B prisoners outside Buru; 5,920 Category B prisoners being rehabilitated on Buru; and 258 Category Y prisoners.

The release of 4,000 Phase II prisoners will leave 4,154, including 475 Category A; 1,723 Category B outside Buru; 1,915 being rehabilitated on Buru; and 41 Category Y.

The first group of 100 transmigrant families is scheduled to depart East Java by boat on 26 September. Prospective transmigrants are being prepared in critical areas of Magetan, Trenggalek, Malang, Bondowoso, Madium and Tulungagung.

According to the chief of the East Java Regional Office of the General Directorate of Transmigration, M. Maat Yoedolaksono, East Java's quota for the Buru Island project is 750 families; the Central Java quota is 500 families; the Yogyakarta Special District quota is 250 families; and the West Java quota is 500 families. The transmigrants will work 2,000 hectares of land, including 1,400 hectares of riceland.

2,000 Released in Semarang

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 11 Oct 79 pp 1, 13

[Excerpts] The commander of Military Region VII, Diponegoro, Major General Soekotjo, acting special executive officer/commander of the Command for Restoration of Security and Order for Central Java and Yogyakarta Special District said the Government has given former G30S/PKI prisoners the opportunity to return to society and become good citizens.

The commander said this in a speech marking the release of 2,000 G30S/PKI Category B prisoners from Buru in the Olahraga Building, Central Java, Semarang on 10 October.

The release of 2,000 prisoners in Semarang represents the second group to be freed in Phase II/1979. The first group was freed in Surabaya in September.

Of the 2,000 released, 1,699 returned to Central Java and 301 to Yogyakarta Special District. None of them were former Armed Forces personnel. Central Java's governor, Soepardjo and representatives of the Yogyakarta Regional Government were there to receive them. Five of the released prisoners immediately entered the transmigration program for Buru Island.

9197
CSO: 4213

MOCHTAR, SOLON COMMENT ON RELATIONS WITH PRC

Caution Necessary

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Oct 79 p 12

[Text] The Indonesian Government is basically prepared to normalize relations with the PRC. Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmaja indicated this in response to a correspondent's question upon his arrival at Halim Airfield yesterday afternoon, in connection with Vice President Adam Malik's declaration Saturday that ASEAN will increase relations with the PRC, to protect the balance and stability in this region.

According to Mochtar, the Indonesian attitude is based on the fact that the PRC is a populous nation, and is a factor in world politics, whether one likes it or not.

"But we must be cautious, because of various recent developments," he noted. These developments include the "opening of the PRC to the outside world," but in his trip to Southeast Asia last year, Deng Xiaoping still maintained there was a difference between relations between governments and relations between Communist Parties. He said the Chinese Communist Party would continue to support the struggles of Communist Parties in Southeast Asia.

Another problem is Deng's unclear attitude towards the overseas Chinese. "There are other problems we must be careful about," he said, without elaborating.

In addition, according to Mochtar, we must complete necessary preparations. Among other things, there is the matter of citizenship of Chinese in Indonesia. We must also see whether any obstacles develop in the movement toward resumption of relations. This means, whether the government of the PRC is the type which will later confront us. There are still questions as to whether Deng Xiaoping can maintain power, and continue the "liberalization policy" he has begun.

According to Mochtar, this policy has acquired enough momentum, so that it is felt that it cannot be halted. This means the PRC is now more concerned

with development than in exporting its ideology. The conditions which will permit normalization of relations without harming Indonesian interests are closer to being reached. "We will see that time," he said.

According to the foreign minister, although there are no official relations at present, it still can be said that relations between Indonesia and the PRC are good. Relations are good at the United Nations, and in Third World nations, where both countries maintain representatives. For example, the minister said that last year, he, himself, dined with a PRC official in New York. In the recent United Nations session, the minister met with the PRC deputy foreign minister to discuss, among other things, the situation in East Timor.

"Just because there are no official diplomatic relations, that does not mean that there are no relations, or that relations are bad," the foreign minister commented. This is made possible because China, based on its own interests, is supporting ASEAN initiatives in several matters.

When asked whether ASEAN, particularly Indonesian, efforts to normalize relations with the PRC can be regarded as an effort to forestall Soviet penetration of the region, the minister replied, "We must work for our interests in a mature manner, and not just as a reaction. Politics is freedom of action, not a reactive policy."

He also rejects the idea that normalization is needed because of the worsening situation in Cambodia. "It is because of our wish for good relations with everyone," he said. The foreign minister arrived in Jakarta following his participation in the United Nations General Assembly session.

Apprehension Concerning USSR

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Oct 79 pp 1, 5

[Text] Vice President Adam Malik's declaration that ASEAN will step up relations with the PRC to preserve balance and stability in the region is "most correct, although there are positive and negative aspects," according to a member of Parliamentary Commission I, H. M. Amin Iskandar (F-PP). It is positive, because it represents an attitude reflecting the desire that Russia keep "hands off," and not widen its influence to the point that it threatens the neutrality and security of ASEAN.

This ASEAN attitude, Amin Iskandar said yesterday, is caused by the fact that Russia is increasing its activity everywhere, within the framework of a global strategy. It started in Indochina, and is penetrating Afghanistan; and is in Africa and the oil-rich Arab states. Japan and several Western European nations have expressed their apprehension.

He cited the negative aspects of the delcaration of ASEAN's attitude, as explained by Adam Malik. That is, that Vietnam can use those "good relations with the PRC" to charge that there is cooperation between ASEAN

and the PRC to help the Pol Pot regime via Thailand, possibly leading to the impression in the Third World that ASEAN has entered an alliance with the PRC and the United States.

"The ASEAN attitude in all this is honest. That doesn't mean we will strengthen one relationship at the expense of others," said Amin Iskandar. "But Adam Malik's declaration represents the belief that if ASEAN is threatened, it will be led toward a certain bloc. It is desirable that Vietnam and Russia realize that ASEAN must protect its neutrality." He added that Russia has a moral obligation to respect Asian neutrality.

Concerning Brezhnev's promise to Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Husein Onn that Vietnam would not attack ASEAN, according to Amin Iskandar, every nation can make those promises. But in the event of war, whether limited or not, those promises are often forgotten. If Vietnam, for example, is discontented, and later attacks an ASEAN nation, Russia will not be able to say anything. The proof of this is that two Vietnamese mortar rounds have fallen on a refugee camp in Thailand, he noted.

Concerning the normalization of bilateral relations between Indonesia and the PRC, Amin Iskandar believes, like Adam Malik, that the time has not yet come. "Although we face the Bear, we shouldn't invite the Dragon," he said.

According to this member of Parliamentary Commission I (external affairs and defense and security), the PRC has not yet clarified its stance on the question of overseas Chinese, and the problem of assistance from the Chinese Communist Party to other Communist parties, so that the time for normalization has not yet arrived. When viewed from the aspect of economic relations, there is also no great advantage, because the PRC does not have the technological capability that can be transferred.

Amin Iskandar is surprised that there are those who say that the "Russian Lobby" in Indonesia is becoming increasingly forceful. "There is not only a Russian Lobby, but also lobbies for America and the other superpowers, which are constantly trying to strengthen themselves. That is a reality," said the former diplomat. "What is important is that we must also try to advance in the field of diplomacy."

9197
CSO: 4213

FORMER PHNOM PENH OFFICIAL DESCRIBES KAMPUCHEAN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC SITUATION

LD281159 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Dec 79 p 8 LD

[Interview with former Kampuchean official Kang Sanerat by R.-P. Paringaux "Interview With High-Ranking Official of Phnom Penh Who Has Sought Refuge in Thailand"--undated]

[Excerpts] Bangkok--"President Heng Samrin's government is in control of the entire country.... The people's administration is firmly established from top to bottom.... The Kampuchean people have become the real masters of their destiny," Mr Truong Chinh, president of Vietnam's National Assembly, recently asserted. "The Heng Samrin government has no power. The Vietnamese exert control over an administration despised by the population down to the lowest echelon," stated Mr Kang Sanerat, former deputy chairman of the Phnom Penh Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation Permanent Committee and former information minstry publications director, who has recently decided to forsake a regime under which he had a privileged position and seek refuge in Thailand.

Mr Kang estimates that there are "several thousand" civilians and soldiers from Hanoi in Phnom Penh and asserts that they have occupied villas in the smart districts, including Tuol-kok in the city center. However, he has not noticed any Soviet presence apart from diplomats working in Phnom Penh and members of friendship delegations. He emphasized the generally "correct and friendly" behavior of Vietnamese advisers with respect to new regime officials. "But despite this, we criticize them whenever we are on our own. Those who are unable to offer resistance actively, offer passive resistance," he said. He asserted that "hundreds" of the regime's opponents accused of being agents of anticommunist movements (Sereika and Khmers Serei) are being kept in Phnom Penh central prison.

Referring to international aid, Mr Kang stated that he has heard Vietnamese advisers say accusingly: "If aid does not reach the population it is because of the corruption of the Kampucheans entrusted with its distribution who misappropriate it." The Vietnamese, Kang continued, have considered the possibility of distributing aid themselves. Mr Kang believes that such an

explanation can only be "partially" true but he stated that he does not know what happens to the aid which is so badly needed in rural areas.

As for the question of looting, he asserted that despite formal prohibition by the authorities, "gangs of Kampucheans take everything they can lay their hands on (furniture, crockery, machinery, locks, pipes and so forth) to the river banks and sell it to Vietnamese civilians who arrive by boat from the river's delta."

Another refugee asserted that these kinds of things have also happened at Siem Reap-Angkok [as published], where the Vietnamese general headquarters for the western region are situated, from which cargo aircraft bringing ammunition in have apparently flown back home loaded with the contents of whole houses.

Referring to China, Mr Kang stated: "The people hold the Chinese responsible for what happened under the Khmers Rouges or at least for allowing it to happen. They know that Beijing has continued to support Pol Pot and that Prince Sihanouk is opposed to this. This is a weighty argument for the Vietnamese who continually use Pol Pot and China as whipping boys." Referring to Sihanouk, he said: "The intellectuals are the most reticent. There has always been a great deal of rivalry and jealousy between them and the prince. However, the people hope for a Sihanouk solution because Sihanouk represents the best of the four regimes experienced by Kampuchea in the past 10 years. This is why Phnom Penh and Hanoi are attacking him so violently. If they had freed him in January as they intended to do, they would probably have won the contest. Now, just as happened under Lon Nol, the more they criticize him, the more important they make him look."

Referring to the Vietnamese, Mr Kang restated: "In the first 3 months they were welcomed as liberators, especially by former city dwellers. Peasants even took them to Khmer Rouge caches. However, promises that everything would return to normal have failed to materialize over the year that has elapsed--famine has spread during their presence, the economy remains nonexistent, war is going on and they control everything whatever they may say. Under the Khmers Rouges madness prevailed. Under the Vietnamese the situation has become unbearable. As far as its internal structure is concerned, my country has ceased to exist--it has been occupied and is being ruled by foreigners. I came to the conclusion that it would be better if I left. It is not difficult to leave if you give some gold to the soldiers of Heng Samrin and to those of Hanoi."

CSO: 4200

UNICEF OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN KAMPUCHEA

BK1011417 Hong Kong AFP in English 1103 GMT 10 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Bangkok, 10 Dec (AFP)--An official of the United Nation Children's Fund (UNICEF) who has just spent one week in Cambodia said here today that he had not seen any deliberate hoarding of international relief supplies in that country.

This contradicted allegations frequently made against the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh authorities, observers noted.

UNICEF regional information chief Jacques Dandis returned to Bangkok yesterday after spending one week studying the situation in Phnom Penh and the surrounding countryside in a 100 kilometre (60 mile) radius round the Cambodian capital.

He also travelled by road from Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh and described the stretch from the Cambodian border to the Mekong River as "one gigantic paddy field as far as the eye can see filled with working peasants."

Harvesting would be complete in this Vietnamese border area by the end of the year, he added.

During the course of his road journey from Vietnam to Cambodia and in the course of his travels around Phnom Penh Mr Dandis was able to observe a situation significantly different from that described in certain reports on the distribution of food aid in Cambodia and the reports of Cambodian refugees.

"The population seemed to be quite familiar with the distribution points I saw in the villages, because they were queuing up outside them," Mr Dandis said.

When they arrived, distribution officials set up scales and called the names of the inhabitants from a list that had been drawn up and used for several months.

In the countryside where life was less hard, each person received a monthly ration of eight kilograms (18 lbs) of rice whereas in the city where food was harder to obtain each person was given between 12 and 13 kilos (26-28 lbs) of rice a month.

Distribution centres had also been opened in each district of Phnom Penh where the officials also had a pair of scales and a list of names.

Mr Dandis stressed that he had himself organized his own programme of visits and that he was only accompanied on his travels by a Cambodian guide. He added that communications problems and the lack of telephones meant that officials had been unable to "set up" phoney distribution scenes for his benefit.

"In addition, the foreigners I met in Phnom Penh told me that this was how food distribution was carried out in other parts of Cambodia," Mr Dandis said.

Mr Dandid said that large numbers of five- and ten-ton lorries (trucks) were to be seen at any given moment travelling along Cambodian roads.

They included Vietnamese civilian vehicles and vehicles belonging to UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the British charity Oxam.

"These lorries are on the move all the time and I can state that I saw lorries arrives full of rice from Ho Chi Minh City and leave empty," Mr Dandis stressed.

He added that in Phnom Penh he had seen four Vietnamese vessels unloading rice bought by the Soviet Union in India.

As for the foodstocks reportedly piling up on Phnom Penh warehouses, Mr Dandis said he had been to the one in the port of Phnom Penh and that it had been three quarters empty as lorries left it loaded with rice.

"It is true that there have been problems in the port of Kompong Som (250 kilometers (160 miles) southwest of Phnom Penh on the Gulf of Siam), but the situation is beginning to improve," Mr Dandis said.

The UNICEF information chief confirmed however that it was impossible to have complete control over the distribution of food aid. "The food is handed over to the authorities and we can only carry out occasional controls," he said.

According to the information given by Phnom Penh officials the Province of Konpong Speu southwest of the capital would appear to be undergoing the greatest difficulties, Mr Dandis said. Lack of water is a big problem and the people have to collect rainwater.

Mr. Dandis said he met a Vietnamese doctor from Ho Chi Minh City in Kompong Speu who told him that many people had been injured by exploding mines and rockets that had been abandoned in the fields.

Dr Thanh had told him that there was a 32-member Vietnamese medical team in Kompong Speu Province which included one doctor, two midwives, interns and nurses.

For the whole of Cambodia there were in addition to the 50 or so Cambodian doctors, two Vietnamese doctors attached to every provincial hospital, Dr Thanh had said.

CSO: 4220

SON SANN: UN RESOLUTION IS KAMPUCHEA'S 'LAST HOPE' AGAINST VIETNAM

LD281045 Paris LE MONDE in French 18 Dec 79 p 7 LD

[Dispatch by K.-P. Paringaux: "Mr Son Sann Appeals to all Khmers To Unite in the Face of Vietnamese Invasion"]

[Text] Suk-Sann (Kampuchea)—"Divided from 1970, Kampuchea became a country in which first corruption and later, after 1975, barbarity prevailed. I urge all Khmers to fight their way back in order to regain our honor and dignity and save our unfortunate brothers and sisters. Let us rival combatants try to agree among ourselves to end this tragedy and stop killing one another. Once we are united, foreigners will no longer be able to take advantage of our quarrels to exterminate all Khmers. If we are united, the world will help us. No single person or group can successfully carry out the task of liberation. This can only be done through the coordinated action of all patriots worthy of being called Kampucheans."

From the depths of a malarial, impenetrable jungle, in a village consisting of straw huts in which some 2,000 civilian survivors of a group which numbered 6,000 last May, a dignified and ascetic gentleman, Prince Sihanouk's former prime minister, accompanied by a general and a colonel who served in Marshal Lon Nol's army, made this pathetic appeal in support of a union of all Kampuchean forces in the presence of a handful of journalists on 14 December. This appeal took at the same time the form of a challenge to the Vietnamese occupier. Some people will deem it derisory, but 68-year old Mr Son Sann, who was the prince's minister 17 times and is known for his integrity, has come a long way to deliver his appeal.

He left Paris, where he had lived for 10 years, in August. He says: "It is our duty to continue to exist in order to inspire the Khmer people with courage, if for no other reason.... The ship of Kampuchea is floundering and its people are drowning. Some people, including us, have come on board to try to help it. Others have remained on shore. It is not up to me to pass judgment on them." This was the first dig at Prince Sihanouk and "the corrupt people of the former republic of Lon Nol," whose confederation has kept aloof from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (FNLPK) led by Mr Son Sann.

itwould be risky to try to assess the political and military force of this movement, which was created in October. It enjoys the support of some Khmers abroad and--this has not been mentioned by Mr Son Sann--can reply both on a friendly attitude on the part of the Chinese and on material help from Thai troops. It is the Thai military who have made it possible for the FNLPK to continue to exist and, especially, to regroup under General Dien Dell's command various resistance movements and small groups (some of which claim to be supported by the prince). This has not been achieved without frictions, some of them bloody. Even in the face of the Vietnamese, quarrels and settling of accounts among Khmers seem to take first place here just as abroad. However, Mr Son Sann has stated that "since the creation of the FNLPK many resistance movements inside the country have been contacted. People are joining us more or less from everywhere. We lack arms and ammunition, not men."

Disagreement With Prince Sihanouk

Referring to rumors about external pressures aimed at creating an alliance between the FNLPK and the Khmers Rouges, Son Sann stated: "Any union is out of question. We are in the people's service, and the people will never again accept the Khmers Rouges' barbarity. The only thing we have in common with them at present is the fact that we are fighting against the Vietnamese and so are they."

Mr Son Sann has no illusions about Hanoi's intentions. His convictions have their roots in history: "The Vietnamese have always felt cramped in the Gulf of Tonkin. That is why the 'liberated' Champa (an Indochinese Hindu kingdom of 3d through 17th centuries which was destroyed by the Vietnamese), and we know what happened to the race of the Chams: it disappeared.

"Later, they 'liberated' Kampuchea-Krom (Cochin China), and we know what happened to the Khmers who lived there. North Vietnam also 'liberated' South Vietnam, and we know what was in store for the National Liberation Front. Later it was Laos' turn, and now the turn of Kampuchea has come.

"The methods used now differ from those used by the Khmers Rouges, but genocide continues. Southern provinces are being depopulated. Khmers are being driven out into Thailand. The Tonkinese will later come and settle here. This has been going on for centuries."

And Mr Son Sann added: "Vietnam knows from experience that no occupier can prevail against the will of an entire people. We do not underestimate Hanoi's military apparatus but the Vietnamese have problems with respect to both the morale of their southern soldiers and their logistics. They are fighting a completely unjust colonial-style war of conquest. They are violating principles of nonalinement and have recently been condemned by the United Nations. Ours is a just cause and the people support us.

"The UN resolution is Kampuchea's last hope. It is on the basis of this resolution that efforts should be made with a view to insuring a cease-fire and the withdrawal of the Vietnamese armed forces under UN supervision, and organizing an international conference and secret elections by universal suffrage. But first, all participants in the conflict must promise to stop obstructing international aid to enable the people to survive, and representatives of various Khmer factions, including those which cooperate with Vietnam, must meet at some neutral place with a view to determining Kampuchea's future, ending the present tragedy and rebuilding the country."

A commendable appeal, but in view of the attitude adopted by Hanoi, which has always determined its policy according to the existing balance of forces in the field, it would be advisable to end all internal divisions and personal quarrels among Kampucheans, especially among the three great national figures who alone are capable of bringing together almost all the Khmer people--Prince Sihanouk and his former prime minister Penn Nouth on the one hand, and Son Sann on the other. Son Sann denies that he is a splittist but does not claim to represent a common denominator. He is too old, he says, to have personal ambitions. Mr Son Sann stated that he has repeatedly suggested to the prince that the latter become leader of the FNLPK. However, at the time in question, that is, in March, Sihanouk expressed the view that it would be premature to engage in armed struggle before the Khmers Rouges were exterminated, and he declined the offer.

Since then the prince has created his "confederation" and called for armed struggle. "While the prince was changing his mind, men and women were dying in Kampuchea every day. Resistance fighters many of whom have been fighting since 1974 and who were not prepared to lay down their arms in accordance with Sihanouk's wishes, risked their lives to supply food for the population. Was there any point in waiting and equivocating, or was it better to take the plunge? I joined these men. I impose my will on no one, our decisions are made jointly.... I believe that in these tragic times any polemics would be sterile. We continue the action which we have started. If others want to help us in any way, they can do so. Even if they are different, our activities can be complementary."

Clearly, Mr Son Sann is unwilling to break off relations with the prince, but some members of his entourage seem to disagree with him on this point. Can he openly use Norodom Sihanouk's name, considering that the FNLPK largely depends on support from the Thai military authorites, who loathe the former monarch? Against his will the old man seems to be faced with this dilemma. But is it by mere chance that he has chosen to fight under the colors of the Sihanouk flag? That flag flutters over the village of Suk-sann, in the center of a "liberated" clearing in the middle of the jungle, in the Cardamomes mountains of Kampuchea.

CSO: 4200

BRIEFS

MECHANICAL PUMPS FROM VIETNAM--Phnom Penh, 8 Dec (SPK)--A ceremony was held in Phnom Penh on Wednesday [5 December] by the Ministry of Agriculture to receive 96 mechanical pumps donated by the Vietnamese people to the Kampuchean people. Attending the ceremony were Men Chhan, Kampuchean minist r of agriculture; Dinh Gia Khanh, Vietnamese vice minister of water conservancy; and other personages. These pumps, part of the aid given by the Vietnamese people to normalize the Kampuchean people's life, will irrigate from 5,000 to 7,000 hectares of ricefields in the dry season. [Text] [BK101432 (Clandestine) SPK in French 0400 GMT 8 Dec 79 BK]

KAMPUCHEAN HISTORY--According to TASS, the Oriental Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences has completed the drafting of Kampuchean history. The book covers the hard ordeals endured by the Kampuchean people in their former struggle against the imperialists and especially in their present struggle against the Beijing expansionists with the support of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. [BK161404 (Clandestine) SPK in French 0407 GMT 13 Dec 79 BK]

AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS' TOUR--A group of experts from the ministry of agriculture comprising experts in the preservation of plants, in irrigation and in mechanics toured Prey Veng and Svay Rieng provinces on 5 November in order to assess the rice cultivation situation in the last rainy season and make preparations with the provincial power for the coming dry season rice growing. The group was led by (Chea Song), head of the agronomical office. The group attended meetings with the provincial committees in charge of agriculture during which they discussed measures on preservation of crops, irrigation and mechanics to be implemented in the dry season cultivation. It should be noted that rice cultivation in the last rainy season was promising. [BK161404 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 14 Nov 79 BK]

TRAINING COURSE IN STUNG TRENG--Phnom Penh, 3 Dec (SPK)--A political and educational course started recently in Stung Treng, 300 kms northeast of Phnom Penh, and 70 persons, most of them from ethnic minorities, have attended this course. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0400 GMT 3 Dec 79 BK]

RICE HARVEST IN RATANAKIRI--Phenom Penh, 29 Nov (SPK)--The population of northeast Ratanakiri Province has started harvesting 3,200 hectares of rice from the rainy season crop. At the beginning of the season, the people of the Vietnamese provinces of Nghia Binh and Gia Lai-cong Tum supplied 410 tons of seeds, 350 tons of foodstuffs and thousands of farming tools. Preparations for the dry season crop are underway. In Phnom Penh, life is back to normal after the rainy season rice was harvested and the revolutionary administration had supplied more than 800 tons of rice. The population of the suburban communes has already planted more than 140 hectares of food crops for the dry season. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0430 GMT 30 Nov 79 BK]

HEALTH SERVICES IN KRATIE--Phnom Penh, 29 Nov (SPK)--The Kratie Provincial hospital, 160 kms northeast of Phnom Penh, has successfully treated more than 1,900 patients since it reopened 7 months ago. The staff, consisting of 1 doctor and 56 auxiliaries, overcame many difficulties, increasing the number of beds to 120 and helping the Roka Kandal commune to set up a dispensary where they now have 22 beds and 7 auxiliaries including 2 midwives. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0432 GMT 30 Nov 79 BK]

TRAINING OF BATTAMBANG CADRES--Phnom Penh, 2 Dec (SPK)--Since the liberation, the revolutionary power of Battambang Province, located more than 380 kms northwest of Phnom Penh, has organized political courses for 2,500 cadres, teachers, intellectuals and artists. The cadres were told about the dark designs and treacherous schemes of the Chinese expansionists in collusion with the American imperialists and their lackeys to reinstate the genocidal regime. The cadres decided to do everything in their power to build the country and consolidate the fraternal solidarity between the peoples of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0408 GMT 2 Dec 79 BK]

HARVEST IN STUNG TRENG DISTRICT--Phnom Penh, 30 Nov (SPK)--The people of Stung Treng District, 250 kms northeast of Phnom Penh, have already harvested 30 percent of their planted fields. The average yield varies between 18 and 25 quintals of paddy per hectare. Stung Treng has particularly profited from aid given by the population of the Vietnamese Province of Thanh Hoa in the form of seeds and pharmaceutical products. The people of Stung Treng are now growing vegetables to improve their diet. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1420 GMT 30 Nov 79]

LAO ARTISTS--Phnom Penh, 1 Dec (SPK)--Invited by the Kampuchean Ministry of Information, Press and Culture, a delegation from the National Artistic Company of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, headed by Paseut Sisanon, arrived on Friday in Phnom Penh on a friendly tour to mark the first anniversary of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation. (2 December). The Lao artists were met at Pochentong airport by Peou Youleng, vice president of the KNUFNS Central Committee and director of the Kampuchean National Artistic Company, and by other artists. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1440 GMT 1 Dec 79 BK]

KAMPUCHEAN-LAO PRESS MEETING--In Hanoi, on 20 November, the Kampuchean journalists delegation headed by Chey Saphon, director general of SPK and director of the DAILY KAMPUCHEAN, had a cordial meeting with Son Khamvan-vongsa, head of the Lao journalists delegation and staff director of the Ministry of Propaganda, Information, Culture and Tourism. During their meeting the two sides reaffirmed their solidarity in the common struggle against Beijing expansionism, imperialism and international reaction, for peace and security in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world. They also decided to further develop relations and strengthen cooperation between Kamuchean and Lao journalists. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1432 GMT 22 Nov 79 BK]

FISHING TEAM ORGANIZATION--A total of 226 solidarity fishing teams of 3,175 fishermen have been established in Phnom Penh, Battambang and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey to participate in the current fishing season. Phnom Penh has provided the fishermen with tens of thousands of meters of nets made with materials supplied by Vietnam. Solidarity fishing teams in Phnom Penh have delivered to the state 80 percent of their catch in exchange for food and consumer goods. In October the trade service in Phnom Penh supplied to consumers more than 300 tons of fresh fish. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1432 GMT 26 Nov 79 BK]

PHNOM PENH COMMUNE--The commune of Kaheng, more than 30 km west of Phnom Penh, has more than 7,400 inhabitants, most of whom have returned from labor camps in other regions of the country, where they were repressed under the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. In the current season, they have cultivated 392 hectares of rice. The initial harvest of the first plots of land has given a yield of 2.5 tons of paddy per hectare. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1439 GMT 13 Nov 79 BK]

BRITISH FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN--The British TV show "Blue Peter" recently launched a fund-raising campaign for the benefit of the Kampuchean people, London sources reported. Within 2 days, 148,700 pounds sterling were collected; by 18 November the sum had reached the 653,166 pounds sterling mark. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1442 GMT 21 Nov 79 BK]

TAKEO PRODUCTION--Phnom Pneh, 11 Oct (SPK)--The 600 solidarity groups in Takeo Province have transplanted 55,000 hectares of rice and planted other crops on an additional 7,100 hectares. The Vietnamese people have furnished 1,200 tons of seeds and 30 cultivating machines. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0400 GMT 11 Oct 79]

KOMPONG CHAM PRODUCTION--Phnom Penh, 8 Oct (SPK)--According to a delegate from Kompong Cham attending the Second KNUFNS Congress, 51,958 hectares of rice fields and a further 950 hectares on the plateau have been planted thanks to 1,700 tons of rice seeds offered by the Vietnamese Province of Tay Ninh. The province has also cultivated 13,000 hectares of corn, peanuts and vegetables. The delegate indicated that his province had received 7,537 tons of rice from Vietnam. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1432 GMT 8 Oct 79 BK]

STUNG TRENG STATISTICS--Phnom Penh, 5 Oct (SPK)--According to Bun Chan, a delegate from Stung Treng attending the Second KNUFNS Congress, the province has formed 36 solidarity groups embracing 2,642 cattle, 7,094 draft buffalo and has harvested 1,500 hectares of rice and 1,000 hectares of corn. Two hundred schools have been opened for 7,900 students, while a 100 bed hospital staffed by 36 doctors and assistants is already functioning. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0407 GMT 5 Oct 79 BI]

SOVIET AID--In October and November, three Soviet ships arrived in the port of Phnom Penh carrying more than 7,000 tons of food supplies for the Kampuchean people. The "Ognyan Naydov" arrived in Phnom Penh harbor last 20 October loaded with over 3,000 tons of books and various materials. Two other ships arrived successively on 7 and 27 November, one of them carrying 2,387 tons of corn and the other 1,982 tons of corn. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1430 GMT 15 Dec 79 BK]

CZECHOSLOVAK RED CROSS DELEGATION--A delegation of the Czechoslovak Red Cross, led by its president, Hatiar, arrived yesterday in Phnom Penh for a visit to the People's Republic of Kampuchea at the invitation of the Red Cross of Kampuchea. On the same day, Nu Beng, minister of health and social affairs and president of the Kampuchean Red Cross, met with the guests who expressed the desire of the Czechoslovak people to help the Kampuchean people overcome the consequences of the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1441 GMT 8 Dec 79 BK]

FRG CHARITABLE DELEGATION--A delegation of the Hilfsaktion (FRG) headed by its president Mrs Ranke Heinemann, a doctor, arrived on 7 December in Phnom Penh invited by the Central Committee of the KNUFNS. The delegation brought 8,640 kilos of medicines for the Kampuchean people. The delegation was met at Pochentong airport by Yos Por, secretary general of the KNUFNS Central Committee. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0404 GMT 8 Dec 79 BK]

SRV POSTAL DELEGATION--Under the agreement of cooperation between the two countries and at the invitation of the Kampuchean Ministry for Posts and Communications, a delegation from Vietnam's Central Office for Posts and Telecommunications, led by Deputy Director Vu Van Quy, arrived yesterday in Phnom Penh. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1441 GMT 8 Dec 79 BK]

VIETNAMESE WOMEN DELEGATION--A delegation of the SRV Women's Union led by Mrs Ha Thi Que, chairperson of the union, arrived in Phnom Penh last Monday [10 December] on a friendship visit to the People's Republic of Kampuchea at the invitation of the Kampuchean Women's Association for National Salvation [KWANS]. The delegation was welcomed at the Pochenton airport by Mrs Mean Saman, KWANS president, and other officials of the association. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0356 GMT 12 Dec 79 BK]

SRV MOTOR-DRIVEN PUMPS--Kompong Cham Province recently received 10 motor-driven pumps of 12 hp capacity each from Tay Ninh Province. Five of these pumps have been used by Koh Sautin and Thbong Khmum districts in the cultivation of dry season crops. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1430 GMT 11 Dec 79 BK]

RECRUITS FOR KANDAL ARMED FORCES--Phnom Penh, 5 Oct (SPK)--About 1,000 youths in Kandal have joined the provincial revolutionary armed forces. Most of them come from the districts of Pognea Leeu, Leeuk Dek, Khsach Kandal and Lovea Em. Kandal has made an outstanding effort to build its local armed forces, many units of which have accomplished great deeds in eliminating bandits of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime as well as helping with production and with the task of normalizing life of the population. [Text] [(CLandestine) SPK in French 1434 GMT 5 Oct 79 BK]

FINE ARTS SCHOOL--Phnom Penh, 7 Oct (SPK)--A school of fine arts was inaugurated on Thursday in Phnom Penh when it started its first course. It has enrolled 350 students, 200 of whom are girls. The students will attend courses to improve their general knowledge as well as courses of professional training such as choreography, music and so on. The teachers are survivors of the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. The minister of information, culture and press, Keo Chandan, attended the inauguration. To mark the occasion, he presented the school with musical instruments donated to the Kampuchean people by the Lao and Vietnamese people. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0407 GMT 7 Oct 79 BK]

LECTURES FOR ARMY CADRES--Phnom Penh, 10 Oct (SPK)--Military cadres from the communes and district of Kandal Province have recently attended lectures to improve their political and military education. Afterwards, these trained cadres organized lectures for members of the people's militia to bring them up to date on the policies of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation and People's Revolutionary Council and on the immediate tasks of the revolution, particularly in the spheres of security and production. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0429 GMT 10 Oct 79 BK]

STUDENT DELEGATION--Phnom Penh, 12 Oct (SPK)--A delegation of the International Union of Students [IUS], led by its President Miroslav Stefens, has visited Kampuchea. The delegates who were received by National Education Minister Chan Ven and by Information, Press and Culture Minister Keo Chanda, expressed their sympathy with the efforts made by the KNUFNS and the People's Revolutionary Council in all spheres to lift their country out of the destruction created by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. The visitors went to the school-prison of Toul Sleng where they were told, among other things, about the crimes committed by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime against the students and intellectuals who came back from abroad. At a meeting with students who survived the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime, the delegation reaffirmed the support which students from all over the world extend to the cause of the Kampuchean people against the treacherous schemes of Beijing's expansionism, American imperialism and their lackeys. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1439 GMT 12 Oct 79 BK]

PUOK DISTRICT RICE CULTIVATION--Puok District, west of Siem Reap city, has grown 13,000 hectares of assorted rice during the rainy season. The harvest has started in some localities in the district. In the dry season the district plans to grow 2,600 hectares of rice. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0407 GMT 15 Nov 79 BK]

VIETNAMESE GIFT TO SCHOOLS--Phnom Penh, 15 Oct (SPK)--As a gift from the Vietnamese people, 400,000 exercise-books, 250,000 pencils, 100 school satchels and other school materials were recently delivered to the Kampuchean schools. National Education Minister Chan Ven, who attended the presentation ceremony, expressed the profound gratitude of the revolutionary power to the Vietnamese people for their selfless aid. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0425 GMT 15 Oct 79 BK]

ARMED FORCES IN PREY VENG--Phnom Penh, 17 Oct (SPK)--The revolutionary armed forces of Prey Veng Province, east of Phnom Penh, have had many successes lately in their mopping up operations against the remnants of the Pol Pot army and in stabilizing the livelihood of the population. In the districts of Kompong Trabek and Peareang, these forces helped more than 700 families to transplant rice seedlings over an area of 2,650 hectares and shared their food with destitute families. Cinematographic teams from these armed forces have organized several film sessions, which were attended by thousands of people. Tracking down the remnants of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary forces who were engaged in acts of plundering, these forces put 12 bandits out of action, seized weapons and obtained the surrender of 150 men. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0424 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK]

TONLE SAP FISHING--Phnom Penh, 21 Oct (SPK)--Celebrations were held last Saturday at Chrain Chanres, 7 kms north of the capital, to mark the opening of the fresh-water fishing season on the Tonle Sap. Speaking on this occasion, a representative of the fishermen said that the workers were deeply thankful to the revolutionary authorities for their material and moral assistance and that their cooperative was doing well. He stated that thanks to that help, this year the fishermen will be able to catch 2,000 tons of fresh-water fish. Tiv Yao, deputy chairman of the Phnom Penh's Revolutionary Committee, who attended the opening ceremony, congratulated and encouraged the fishermen who have overcome all kinds of problems to bring the lives of the population back to normal. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0412 GMT 21 Oct 79 BK]

VIETAMESE AID TO KOMPONG THOM--Phnom Penh, 25 Oct (SPK)--The Province of Dong Nai, east of Ho Chi Minh City, has sent a large consignment of school material and clothing to Kompong Thom Province in Central Kampuchea. That Vietnamese province continues to collect school articles, clothing and cooking utensils for the population of Kompong Thom. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0403 GMT 25 Oct 79 BK]

ROLE OF UNIONS--Phnom Penh, 25 Oct (SPK)--Sponsored by the Organization of Trade Unions for the Salvation of Kampuchea, a teach-in was recently held in Phnom Penh on the topic of the role which the trade unions play in the economic and social life of the country. Meas Sammang, president of the Kampuchean Trade Union Organization, and officials and representatives of industrial establishments took part in the teach-in. In his speech, Meas Samnang explained the mission and role of the union. "The union," he said, "is the organization of the working class which guides the revolution

to ensure the noble mission of their class. The workers must actively participate in the production movement; they must overcome the difficulties and set an example for the other social strata helping to bring the life of the population back to normal." The president of the Kampuchean Union urged the officials to protect the union in their establishments and to intensify international solidarity. A report presented at the teach-in announced that 49 enterprises have gone back into operation in the country. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1434 GMT 25 Oct 79 BK]

FARMING TOOL PRODUCTION--Phnom Penh, 26 Oct (SPK)--The Phnom Penh machine tool factory, which went back into operation 5 months ago, has so far produced 150,000 farming hand tools. The factory has facilities to repair and manufacture agricultural machinery but, for the time being, it is mainly making plowshares, hoes and motor pump accessories. The factory is still facing many problems, due in particular to the lack of qualified workers and technicians, who were massacred under the Pol Pot regime. The workers have organized teams whose task is to salvage scrap iron to meet the shortage of materials. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0404 GMT 26 Oct 79 BK]

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY--Phnom Penh, 29 Oct (SPK)--A delegation from the Ministry of Economy, headed by Tain Sarim, on Sunday morning visited the locality of Tuk Chrauv, 12 kms south of the capital, which has distinguished itself for the drive of its recently created solidarity group of fishing production. The group consists of 50 families who are catching hundreds of kilos of fish every day with material assistance from the local authorities. The group plans to catch more than 150 tons of fish this season to improve the living conditions of the local population. Tain Sarim warmly congratulated the fishermen for their spirit of initiative in their joint effort to avert the threat of famine. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0405 GMT 29 Oct 79 BK]

PHOTO EXHIBITION ON USSR--An exhibition on the Soviet Union and on Kampuchea-USSR friendship was inaugurated 6 November in Phnom Penh by the Ministry of Information, Press and Culture to mark the 62d anniversary of the Great Russian October Revolution. Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Kampuchean Valentin Sviridov attended the opening ceremony which was presided over by Minister of Information, Press and Culture Keo Chanda. Also present were members of the diplomatic corps in Phnom Penh. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0426 GMT 7 Nov 79 BK]

SOVIET FILM DAYS--Three Soviet documentaries on Lenin were shown on 8 November in Phnom Penh to inaugurate Soviet film days organized on the occasion of the 62d anniversary of the October Revolution. A ceremony was held on this occasion by the minister of information, press and culture to receive Soviet films handed over by Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Kampuchean Valentin Sviridov. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0443 GMT 8 Nov 79 BK]

KAMPUCHEA-USSR FRIENDSHIP DAY--Thousands of civil servants and employees in Phnom Penh on 8 November participated in the Kampuchea-USSR friendship labor day organized on the occasion of the 62d anniversary of the October Revolution. Labor duties on that day consist mainly in repairing public places and embellishing the capital left in ruins by the Pol Pot regime during its 4-year rule. Minister of Education Chan Ven, working near the independence monument, said he was happy to have an opportunity to help embellish the capital within the framework of Kampuchea-USSR friendship. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0414 GMT 9 Nov 79 BK]

VIETNAMESE RELIEF FOOD--The population of Kaoh Nhek City, Mondolkiri Province, more than 300 km northeast of Phnom Penh, last week organized a ceremony to receive 100 tons of provisions offered by the population of the Vietnamese Province of Dac Lac. Speaking at the ceremony, a representative of Mondolkiri Province recalled that Dac Lac and other Vietnamese provinces have many times given aid to his province, enabling the local people to cultivate 3,500 hectares of rice and 3,000 hectares of subsidiary crops. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1430 GMT 14 Nov 79 BK]

VIETNAMESE POULTRY--The Ministry of Agriculture of Vietnam on 14 November handed 2,500 breeder chickens to the Kampuchean Ministry of Agricultrue at Pochentong airport. This is the first shipment of 4,500 heads of poultry of his kind which Vietnam decided to offer to Kampuchea to help it develop poultry farming. At the ceremony, Mr Sinh Van, representative of the Kampuchean Ministry of Agriculture, expressed the gratitude of the Kampuchean people to the Vietnamese people for their generous aid which, together with the aid in rice and corn seeds, is contributing to the development of Kampuchean agriculture. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1431 GMT 15 Nov 79 BK]

PREAH NET PREAH DISTRICT--The residents in Preah Net Preah District located 80 km northwest of Battambang town, have planted 4,000 or more hectares of rice. Some 8,400 households or more in the district have gathered into 300 teams to help one another in production and in restoring life. The district population are actively preparing their draft animals, agricultural implements and fertilizer for the next rice crop. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0402 GMT 13 Nov 79 BK]

MONGKOL BOREI DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION--Mongkolborei District, Battambang Province, has planted more than 15,800 hectares of rice, despite the shortages of seeds at the beginning of the crop season. In addition to rice, the 30,000 households in the district have also grown 808 hectares of corn and other food crops. As regards animal raising, they now have 900 hogs and some 2,000 head of fowls. [(Clandestine) SPK in French no time and date given BK]

CHIKRENG DISTRICT HARVEST--The harvest of 14,000 hectares of rice and 600 hectares of food crops is in full swing in Chikreng District, Reap-Oddar Meanchy Province The district with its population of 7,000 people and 7,000 head of draft cattle has actively prepared for the dry season rice cultivation. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0428 GMT 7 Nov 79 BK]

THMAR PUOK DISTRICT AGRICULTURE--Thmar Puok District bordering on Thailand this season will grow 1,900 hectares of rice and 130 hectares of manico. Some 9,700 people in the district have had to overcome numerous difficulties left behind by the Pol Pot clique in order to grow the crops. Dozens of tons of food have been sent by the revolutionary administration to the district to support the population during the first days following liberation. [(Clandestine) SPK in French 1432 GMT 9 Nov 79 BK]

SVAY RIENG RICE CULTIVATION--The people in Svay Rieng Province have so far reaped about 300 [as received] of the 40,000 hectares of cultivated rice this season. They have also grown more than 500 hectares of food crops. The revolutionary authorities have urged the peasants to actively prepare for the dry season crop cultivation. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0410 GMT 19 Nov 79 BK]

KIEN SVAY DISTRICT RICE CROP--Kien Svay District, Kandal Province, southeast of Phnom Penh, plans to grow 4,000,000 hectares of short-term rice in this dry season. The solidarity work teams have actually engaged in selecting seeds and preparing soil so that the rice sowing can start on schedule. Great efforts have been exerted to harness the Bang Thum basin aiming at watering thousands of hectares. Many technicains have been sent to Kien Svay District by the Ministry of Agriculture to set up a pilot sector to grow new rice varieties. [Text] [(Clandestine) SPK in French 0431 GMT 7 Nov 79 BK]

DELEGATION TO VIETNAM HOSPITAL--Hanoi, VNA, 26 Dec--A delegation of the Central Committee of the National United Front for Salvation and the National Defence Ministry of Kampuchea on December 22 visited a unit and a hospital of Vietnamese armed forces stationed in Phnom Penh. The delegation included Chan Ven, member of the Front Central Committee, minister of education and president of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association; Chan Si, director of the General Political Department; and Soi Keo, chief of the general staff, of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; Khang Sarin, chairman of the Phnom Penh People's Revolutionary Committee; Nuth Thon, president of the Youth Union for National Salvation; and Mean Saman, president of the Women's Union for National Salvation. Chan Ven expressed the Kampuchean people's attitude to the Vietnamese combatants for their contributions to their liberation and to the defence and construction of Kampuchea. [Text] [OW261615 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 26 Dec 79 OW]

HARVEST IN KOMPONG SPEU--During the past 15 days--from the end of October to the beginning of November--Kompong Speu Province's armed forces helped people to harvest almost 80 hectares of early-maturing rice and grow almost 50 hectares of corn and other crops. [Text] [BK161404 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 17 Nov 79 BK]

ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD POPULATION--To help people in flood areas restore production, the Kandal Province military command has sent a number of cadres and combatants who are experienced in transplanting rice crops to the villages along the Meking River banks to advise the people in transplanting the 3-month rice crop which is the best rice strain given to the Kampuchean people by the Vietnamese people. [Text] [BK161404 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT17 Nov 79 BK]

KOMPONG THOM REGIONAL FORCES--Besides attending political courses, the 19th Battalion of Regional Army in Kompong Thom Province has grown over 5 hectares of vegetables to help solve the living conditions of armymen. This battalion has also helped the people in its area grow 12 hectares of corn and cassavas and weed out almost 20 hectares of grass. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 17 Nov 79 BK]

OCTOBER REVOLUTION CELEBRATIONS--A ceremony was held at the Kampuchean Import-Export Company on 6 November in the presence of Tang Saroem, chairman of the Domestic and Foreign Trade Commission, to mark the 62d anniversary of the Great Russian October Revolution. Present at the ceremony were (Keo Soth), representative of the Kampuchean Import-Export Company; (Yushinkov), chairman of the USSR trade delegation to the PRK; and various other personnel. [BK161326 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 7 Nov 79 BK]

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BRIEFS

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM SRV--In the afternoon of 25 of this month the delegation of the committee for the propaganda and training of the CC (Central Committee) of the party, directed by Chanmi Douangboudi, cabinet minister, chief of the committee for propaganda and training of the CC of the party, returned to Vientiane at the end of its official friendship visit to the SRV. Sopha Khotphouthone, member of the said committee, and the interested cadre were at the Wattay airport to greet them upon their arrival. Bui Van Thanh and Dan Xuan Dung, respectively counselor and economic attache of the SRV embassy were also present. During its stay in SRV the delegation exchanged views with the propaganda and training committee of the CC of the PCVN (Communist Party of Vietnam) and also visited production bases in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City among other provinces. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 26 Oct 79 p 4] 7993

VIENGSAI FOREST PRODUCTS--During the third trimester of this year, the state stores of the Muong Poua, Muong Phoune and Nakhao districts and the district of Vieng Sai, Province of Houa Phanh purchased the following forest products from the population: more than one ton of oleaginous fruit, 4.5 tons of rattan, more than two tons of dry bamboo shoots, 615 kilograms of animal bones, a quantity of tea, 14 buffaloes and some hogs and poultry. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 30 Oct 79 p 6] 7993

KPL DELEGATION TO WARSAW--A delegation of the KPL (LAO PEOPLE'S NEWS AGENCY) led by its deputy general director, Chanthone Thiengthepvongsa recently left Vientiane for Warsaw to participate in the conference of the general directors of the press agencies from socialist countries. During its stop in Hanoi the delegation met with Dao Tung, general director of VNA (VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY), and in conjunction with the VNA delegation, reviewed the execution of the professional agreement between the two agencies for the period of 1978-1980. The KPL agency left Hanoi for Warsaw on the 8th of this month. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 10 Nov 79 pp 3, 4] 7993

FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION TO SOFIA--A delegation from the press department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of LTDR, led by its director, Chanpheng Sihaphom, left Vientiane in the morning of 10 November for the purpose of

participating in the conference of the directors of the press of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the socialist countries, which will be held on 13 to 16 November in Sofia, Bulgaria. The cadre of the department of the press of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present at the Wattay airport to extend their best wishes. Stoimene Stoimenov and Soi Van Thanh, respectively charge d'affaires of RPB and counselor of the SRV Embassy in Laos were also present. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 12 Nov 79 p 7] 7993

COOPERATIVES DELEGATION TO USSR--A delegation for agricultural cooperativeness at the central level, led by the vice president of the directing committee, Khamsen Vongnokeo, left Vientiane on the 12th of this month, having been invited to participate in the 10th congress of the Soviet representatives of consumption cooperation, which is being held from 12 to 14 November 1979 in Moscow. The delegation was accompanied to the airport by the members of the directing committee of agricultural cooperativeness at the central level and their associates, as well as USSR embassy officials in LTDR. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 13 Nov 79 p 3] 7993

SRV TELECOMMUNICATIONS DELEGATION--A delegation from the general department of PT (Posts and Telecommunication Service) of the SRV. led by its deputy director Vu Van Quy arrived on 12 November in Vientiane for an official friendship visit. Upon arrival it was greeted at the airport by Somlith Sayavong, chef de cabinet of the PT ministry and the cadre of the various departments of the said ministry. Dam Xuang Dung, economic counselor of the SRV Embassy and Vietnamese experts who were on a mission in Laos, were also present. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 13 Nov 79 p 4] 7993

OUDOMSAI, SAVANNAKHET BANK DEPOSITS--A sum in the amount of 553,500 kip was deposited in the state bank last month by the inhabitants of the villages of Donekheua, Nakhong and Nahom, commune and district of Muong Houne, province of Oudomsai. A sum of 265,000 kip was also deposited in the state bank during the same period by the cadre and employees of various departments of the district of Muong Phine, province of Savannakhet. [Text] [Vientiane BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French 13 Nov 79 p 6] 7993

RESISTANCE CADRES DECORATED--Vientiane, 4 Dec (KPL)--A 500-strong meeting was held at the prime minister's office on December 2 to decorate 221 cadres and public employees of the office who have distinguished themselves in the resistance against the French and U.S. aggressors. Present at the meeting were Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the party Central Committee, minister to the prime minister's office Sisavat Keobounphan, member of the party CC, minister to the prime minister's office, general chief of staff of the Lao People's Liberation Army, Tongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, deputy minister to the prime minister's office and other officials from the various ministries. [Vientiane KPL in English 0945 GMT 4 Dec 79 BK]

PEACE COMMITTEE DELEGATION--Vientiane, 14 Dec (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Peace Committee headed by its vice chairman Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani returned here on December 12 after attending the conference for support of the Puerto Rican people held in Mexico. Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani is also deputy minister of communications, public works and transport. [Text] [BK161323 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 14 Dec 79 BK]

AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION--Vientiane 14 Dec (KPL)--The delegation of Lao agricultural cooperatives returned here yesterday after attending the 20th anniversary of agricultural collectivization in Mongolia. The delegation headed by Khamsen Vongnokeo, deputy chairman of the leading committee for agricultural cooperation of the party CC, also attended the 5th Congress of the Mongolian Union of Agricultural Cooperatives. [Text] [BK161323 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 14 Dec 79 BK]

FORESTRY TRAINING COURSE--Vientiane, 1 Dec (KPL)--The first training course for forestry workers throughout the country was opened on November 29 in Vientiane at the forestry school of the Agricultural, Forestry and Irrigation Ministry. In his opening speech, Kham-Ouane Boupha, deputy minister, stressed the importance of agriculture and forestry as the basis for the building of a socialist industry in Laos. The 18-month course is attended by 40 forestry workers from various provinces. GDR Ambassador Gunter Horn and the UN representation to Laos were also present at the opening ceremony. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0940 GMT 1 Dec 79 BK]

NEW HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR--Vientiane, 3 Dec (KPL)--Vice-Premier and Minister for Finance Nouhak Phoumsavan on December 1 received Hungarian Ambassador Janos Zegnal who was newly accredited to the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Later in the day, the new Hungarian ambassador also called on Phoumi Vongvichit, vice-premier and minister of education, sports and religious affairs. The Lao vice-premiers wished the new Hungarian ambassador the best of health in order to contribute to the further development of the friendly relations between the LPDR and Hungarian People's Republic. The meeting proceeded in a most friendly and cordial atmosphere. [Text] [BK051512 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 3 Dec 79 BK]

IRAQI, INDIAN ENVOYS RECEIVED--Vientiane, 5 Dec (KPL)--Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and minister for foreign affairs, on December 4 received Nabil Najim Saleh, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Iraq to Laos, whose chancery is in Hanoi. On the same day, Indian Ambassador P. S. Stod also called on Vice Premier Phoun Sipaseut to greet Laos' National Day. The host and guests expressed the best wishes for further development of the friendly relations between Laos and these countries. The receptions took place in an atmosphere of war friendship. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0944 GMT 5 Dec 79 BK]

SOVIET WOMEN'S DELEGATION--Vientiane, 5 Dec (KPL)--Mrs Khampheng Boupha, president of the Lao Patriotic Women's Association Committee, member of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Lao Front for National Construction Standing Committee, on December 4 received the visiting Soviet women's

committee delegation headed by Mrs Konochenko, member of the Presidium of the Soviet Women's Committee, deputy minister of the Meat and Dairy Industry. Mrs Khamsoul Vongivichit, vice president of the LPWA, member of the PSA, and other members of the LPWA were also on hand. The Soviet delegation arrived here early in the day for a friendship visit at the invitation of the LPWA CC. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Mrs Khamsoul Vongvichit and other members of the association Standing Committee, Soviet Ambassador Mitrofan Podolskiy and his wife were also present. [BK051512 Vientiane KPL in English 0945 GMT 5 Dec 79 BK]

SOVIET VOLLEYBALL TEAM--Vientiane, 28 Nov (KPL)--A volleyball team of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic headed by Vorjev Victor Vasilievitch, deputy head of the sport department arrived here on November 27 for a friendship visit at the invitation of the Lao Volleyball Association. The team was welcomed at the airport by Phosikeo Teso, deputy head of the sport, athletic and art department of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Religious Affairs and representatives of volleyball teams in Vientiane. Rudolf Mukhin, first secretary of the Soviet Embassy, and other staff members were also present. The Soviet team includes 9 players two coaches one referee. [Text] [BK051521 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 28 Nov 79 BK]

VOLLEYBALL TEAM--Vientiane, 28 Nov (KPL)--A Lao volleyball team returned here on November 27 after a 3-week friendship visit to the Soviet Union. Present at the airport to welcome the team were members of the Lao Olympic Committee and Volleyball Association and officials from the Soviet Embassy. [Text] [BK051521 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 28 Nov 79 BK]

LAO-SOVIET VOLLEYBALL MATCH--Vientiane, 30 Nov (KPL)--The first friendship match between the volleyball team of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic on visit to Laos and the youth Volleyball team of Vientiane took place yesterday afternoon at the national stadium in Vientiane City. Present on this occasion were: Visian Bounhaksan, deputy minister of education, sports and religious affairs, Kham-Ouan Boupha, deputy minister of agricultural, forestry and irrigation, Souli Nanthavong and Souvannalat Saignavong, both deputy chairmen of the Lao National Olympic Committee, members of the People's Supreme Assembly, members of the various sport associations and thousands of spectators. Soviet Ambassador Mitrofan Podolskiy and other diplomatic envoys were also present. Before the play, Phosikeo Teso, deputy head of the sports, athletics and art department of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Religious Affairs, and V. V. Virjev, deputy head of the sport department, praised the close friendship and cooperation between sportsmen and people of the two countries. Vorjev said his team is very happy to visit Laos on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The game ended three to nil in favour of the guest team. [Text] [BK051521 Vientiane KPL in English 0944 GMT 30 Nov 79 BK]

ART TROUPE DEPARTURE--Vientiane 30 Nov, (KPL)--A 54-member art troupe headed by Paseut Sisanon, head of the art department of the Ministry of Propaganda, Information, Culture and Tourism, left Vientiane today for a friendship visit and performance tour in Kampuchea. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Sisana Sisan minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism, and other officials of the ministry. [Text] [BK051521 Vientiane KPL in English 0940 GMT 30 Nov 79 BK]

COOPERATIVES DELEGATION--Vientiane, 29 Nov (KPL)--A delegation of Lao agricultural cooperatives left here yesterday for Mongolia to attend the 20th anniversary of agricultural collectivization in Mongolia. It will also attend the 5th congress of the Mongolian Union of Agricultural Cooperatives scheduled for December 4-7 in Ulaanbaatar. The delegation is led by Khamsei Vongnokeo, deputy head of the leading committee for agricultural cooperation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee. It was seen off at the airport by members of the committee and other officials. Jambyn Nyamaa, ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic, was also present. [Text] [BK051521 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 29 Nov 79 BK]

CSO: 4220

WORKERS, PEASANTS ORGANIZATION SUBMITS AGRICULTURAL, FISHING PROPOSALS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 3

[Article: "Congress of National Workers and Peasants Organization of the Malaysian Chinese Association Passes Nine Proposals to Be Submitted to the Government: Distribution of Land and Recruitment and Appointment of Public Functionaries Should Be Based on Ethnic Proportions Among the Populace; Guidance to Be Equitably Provided to Fishermen of the Various Ethnic Groups In Order to Develop the Fishing Enterprises"]

[Text] The Second Annual Congress of the National Workers and Peasants Organization of the Malaysian Chinese Association today passed nine proposals which deal, among other things, with land, fishing, and agricultural questions.

(A) The Land Question

(1) Urging the government to recognize contributions to national construction made by the masses of the Chinese workers and peasants and to understand their hardship, and thereby to give them more land, to take the ethnic proportions among the populace as the criteria for such distribution in the planning of various industrial developments.

(B) The Fishing Question

(2) Urging the government to come up with a satisfactory system through diligent research in order to assure protection for dragnet fishermen and fishermen of the shallow seacoasts, and also the development, good care and reservation of breeding grounds for the fishing people along those seacoasts.

(3) Urging the government to simplify the procedures for renovating fishing boats so as to benefit the fishing people.

(4) Urging the government to increase the allocation of funds and attendant assistance, and to provide equitable management guidance and training to the fishing people of the various ethnic groups so as to expand deep sea fishing.

(C) The Agricultural Question

(5) a. Urging more farmers of Chinese ancestry to participate in the establishment of farmers institutions so as to ensure larger numbers of citizens of Chinese ancestry acquiring membership and thereby securing greater benefits.

b. Urging such farmers institutions to publicize the availability of unused province-owned land in their respective neighborhoods so that members may apply for such land for development by themselves.

(6) Urging the government or the Party Central Committee to establish a fishery committee to take the responsibility of studying and investigating the difficult problems facing the fishermen of Chinese ancestry, formulating plans for their solution, and submitting plans to the government for implementation.

(7) Urging the government to actively study the possibility of carrying out a minimum wage system among the masses of our country's blue collar workers.

(8) Urging the government to actively study the difficult problems resulting from the partitioning of land, from land concentration and from landowner absenteeism, so as to avoid bankruptcy in our system of cultivation.

(9) Requesting that the government, when filling vacancies of public offices, should take into consideration the ethnic proportions among the populace.

9255
CSO: 4205

WORKERS, PEASANTS ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN PROMOTES MULTIRACIAL UNITY

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 3

[Article: "Lin Jianshou Points Out in Speech That Internal Unity of the Malaysian Chinese Will Ultimately Help Achieve Multiracial Unity on the Basis of a Fair Society; Blames Those Who Attempt to Divide the State According to Racial Distinctions"]

[Text] Attorney Lin Jianshou, Chairman of the National Workers and Peasants Organization of the Malaysian Chinese Association, emphatically stated in Ipoh today: ethnic unity has priority, while unity of the state is our ultimate goal.

When he gave a speech at the Congress of the National Workers and Peasants Organization of the Malaysian Chinese Association, he pointed out: I have always connected unity of the Chinese to the unity of the state because, with either of the two lost, neither would be able to continue to exist. For this reason, he blames those who attempt to divide our state on the basis of racial distinctions whether or not their pretext happens to be multiracial separatism.

Mr Lin pointed out in his speech:

"The social structure of Malaysia is actually not very simple; struggles between the various strata are confused with struggles between the various racial groups; racial confrontation continues to exist, and we must of course think of ways to eliminate it; problems pertaining to the various classes should be regarded as secondary. We are also dealing with the question of a balance of interests between the indigenous and the non-indigenous. Because of the fact that the Chinese make up a great majority of the population of the non-indigenous community, the responsibility of attempting to achieve a balance between the various ethnic forces in an atmosphere of stability and democracy thus automatically falls upon us.

"Most important of all, we must not allow our opponents to take advantage of class struggle to split the unity of the Chinese or to sabotage our united social organization. Our Workers and Peasants Organization should find a way to solve our class struggle properly."

It was Mr Lin's opinion that the internal unity of the Malaysian Chinese Association would ultimately help achieve multiracial unity on the basis of a fair, reasonable and equitable society.

Some might argue that this already constitutes racism. But, in order to establish a stable society, the ethnic unity attempted in a multiracial society cannot be regarded as racism because its ultimate goal is to achieve the unity of the state to which all racial and ethnic groups belong.

To those who believe in the laboring class, we must remind them: when the state faces crises, the whole state must unite, like what Britain and China did during the last World War. If our society should collapse, class struggle would lose its meaning. Therefore, they should concentrate their efforts on facing Malaysia's realistic situation. They should remember that this Workers and Peasants Organization is designed to strengthen the unity of the laboring class; it will play its own role and bring about a fair and reasonable society with the spirit of democracy, goodwill and cooperation so as to enable the state to enjoy security and happiness. If we become divided, we shall be like small mice in front of a tiger; even with partial unity, we shall be no more like cats before a tiger. Only when we are fully organized can we really look like a tiger ourselves. Hence, unity is very important.

We Must Have Confidence in Our State

I have always connected unity of the Chinese to the unity of the state because, with either of the two lost, neither can exist. I have likewise often explained why the Chinese need unity; perhaps we should also explain why unity of the state is needed. The need for state unity is because of the external threat we face; if our state is hampered by racial confrontation, we are going to be split and we shall not be able to resist the danger from without effectively. Therefore, for our very existence, state unity is very important, and we must therefore condemn those who attempt to divide our state on the basis of racial distinctions, whether or not their pretext happens to be multiracial separatism.

I have also mentioned that state unity should be based on a fair and reasonable society. This is because we want the Chinese to recognize that they must exchange duties for their rights. As a result, we must be prepared to accept the various services assigned by the state even if they happen to be those pertaining to the police forces or armed forces of government departments and units and the work thereof. Only thus will we be entitled to insist on demanding our rights.

In order to perform our duties even to the extent of preparing to sacrifice ourselves, we must have confidence in, and hope for, Malaysia. In order to have confidence, we must feel that Malaysia is a fair state. In order to have confidence, we must feel we and our children will all have a bright future. Whether our duties come first or our rights come first, both rights and duties must actually be attended to simultaneously.

The formation of the Workers and Peasants Organization was devoted to the promotion of harmony and cooperation between the laboring class and the various racial and ethnic groups. We should make those whom we represent feel that there is hope for their future, just like those who live in Gaibang who are looked after by the government's land plan and who also enjoy numerous priorities. Those who live in the new villages number several hundred thousand today; we should struggle for similar rights for them.

The Workers and Peasants Organization strives to provide hope for the future for the laboring class; it wishes to win the cooperation of a great majority of the Chinese. This wish and this desire on our part have already been reflected in the proposals we made at the First Congress. Problems of this kind must still be discussed today, because they are so important. Hereafter let me describe them respectively as follows:

(1) Establishing more vocational, technical and handicrafts schools and colleges.

We have paid too much attention to higher education. The common people and people of the middle class need more vocational, technical and handicrafts schools and colleges. If we are going to turn Malaysia into a modernized industrial and agricultural country, we have to pay attention to education of these sorts.

(2) Distributing land to those who do not own any land.

In some provinces, land is reserved not only for the Malays, but there is plenty of land left unutilized. Under the priority system, such land can be rented to the peasants for short periods. Before land is conceded to non-indigenous people, the indigenous people should be given a period of time to apply for it. This shall be consistent with the "Green Revolution" policy.

Examining the Current Situation in the New Villages

(3) Examining labor laws and regulations in order to render them consistent with the interests of the state and the workers.

At present, our labor laws and regulations have not at all taken into consideration the laborers whose efficiency is insufficient or whose wages fall short of their needs; the policies of the trade unions and the state often conflict with each other. We often adopt labor laws and regulations promulgated in Britain, but, in reality, such laws and regulations often happen to have become obsolete. We must establish a special committee to re-examine them, so that our labor and industrial laws and regulations may eventually bring about an appropriate disposal of the interests of the state and the laborers.

(4) Resolving the problem of the fishermen who must fish in the shallow sea and with a dragnet.

This problem has remained unsolved in any real sense for many, many years. If the dragnet fishermen always come to the shallow sea to fish, they are bound to harm the reproduction of the various species of fish. The dragnet fishermen must rely on larger organizations. The reproduction grounds for the fish must be protected. A committee should be set up to find appropriate means to resolve these problems.

(5) Raising the income level of the small merchants, farmers and fishermen.

Multigroup cooperation has already provided an example in the case of the small merchants. The fishermen and the farmers should likewise be encouraged to organize larger cooperatives for the sake of increasing their income and improving their techniques and abilities for making a living. These questions should be given all-round attention. The Malaysian Chinese will organize a committee to treat these questions.

(6) Examining the current situation in the new villages built under the State of Emergency.

For the sake of security during the period of the declared State of Emergency, small farmers and other village people were removed to the new villages to live. This was what happened precisely 30 years ago. Today, the population there has doubled; the houses have become old; the population is dense; and there is a lack of sanitation facilities as well as schools. They have become the center of neglect and discontent. This is bound to create some danger, since most of those who live in these new villages are Chinese. Therefore, this is an urgent question awaiting solution.

Earlier, Huang Nansheng, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for this congress, pointed out in his speech:

"At present, opportunities for our country's young people to find employment have become increasingly scarce. Many of the younger generation, especially those of Chinese ancestry, have run away to the neighboring countries all because of better employment opportunities there.

"Our country lacks a mass of workers who are well trained and experienced; at the same time, there is no place for such workers to allow them to take advanced studies. Therefore, we appeal to the concerned authorities to establish the kind of schools that would provide them with such an opportunity.

The masses of the workers and peasants are all very poor; we do not have the ability to send our children to foreign countries for their education. Therefore it is the responsibility of our government to establish more institutions of higher learning so as to ensure that the next generation of workers and peasants shall enjoy the opportunity to receive a fair education. It is my opinion that the best way to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor is to do so through education, allowing the children of the masses of the workers and peasants also the opportunity to get a good education.

"To attain the aforesaid points, we can only resort to the road of politics. I therefore call upon our gentlemen and ladies present here to each recruit 10 new members during the remaining 4 months of the present year. At the same time, the party must also provide political education to its members, elevating their sense of identification with the party, so that the party will have a contingent of new followers to rely on. This way, the party is bound to become powerful and great."

9255
CSO: 4205

MALAY STUDENTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FORUM ON MALAYSIAN CHINESE COMMUNITY

Introduction to Forum

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Report: "Forum on Retrospect and Prospect of the Malaysian Chinese Community"]

[Text] Sponsoring Unit: United Headquarters of the Alumni Association of Malaysian Students Studying in Taiwan
Place: Niwala Social Activities Hall, Kuala Lumpur Hilton
Date: July 21, 1979 (Saturday)
Time: 2:30-5:00 pm
Moderator: Lo Shaoying

Panel Members: Zhen Qingnian, Li Yelin, Dr Xie Tianping, Dr Zheng Liangshu, Lo Jinshan, Master Lai Guanfu

Minutes Editor: Publishing Unit, United Headquarters of the Alumni Association of Malaysian Students Studying in Taiwan

Lai Guanfu Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Text] The past history of the Chinese community has been rather simple. During the early period of large-scale migration of the Chinese people to Malaysia, those who came were mostly children of the poor farmers of the two provinces of Fujian and Guangdong; they came here for the sole purpose of edging out a living. Their first, original purpose was that simple, i.e., to edge out a living. But, apart from this, they also discovered that they could even make money from this place. Thus, their thinking changed and their life style likewise changed from that of a static type pertaining to farmers to the more agitating type. In the field of the historical development of culture, we know that insofar as culture is concerned, agricultural culture is static, stable, and of the self-help type, whereas commercial culture is agitating and of the go-get type.

It was only after they had arrived in Southeast Asia that the Chinese changed their thinking and found their ambitions to charge forward strengthened. In the objective environment, the original farming techniques with which they had been familiar were no longer applicable in Malaysia or in Southeast Asia as a whole because there was simply no land available. Under such circumstances, they soon became cheap laborers. But, apart from working as ordinary laborers, they also discovered that there was need for all kinds of skilled workers. Very quickly, as a result, they became transformed from unskilled workers into skilled ones, and some of them even succeeded in making fortunes. In the traditional value concept of the Chinese, education was always emphasized. In the case of the original Chinese immigrants, because theirs had been a society of scholars, farmers, artisans and merchants and a society where scholars were respected, they themselves soon, too, sent their children to the institutions of higher learning at various places to receive different kinds of specialized education. To this day, there are Chinese of all kinds, ranging from the lowest unskilled workers to the highest specialists. For the establishment of a modern state, it may be said that the Chinese have a surplus of manpower and capabilities. But, the Chinese, having achieved the aforesaid successes of a limited scale and having inherited a superior traditional culture, underestimated the conditions in the objective social and political environment and hence eventually suffered their debacle in politics. Today's Chinese community lies between indecision, fears, and puzzlement.

One point of difference between Chinese culture and Western culture is that the cradle of Western culture is Greece, and it was then spread into Rome, France, Britain, Europe and America, and today those who are engaged in the propagation of Western culture are no longer limited to Greeks. But in the case of the Chinese, for several thousand years they have continued to grow and develop in the Yellow River and the Yangzi River regions, and today they have likewise founded their state in the same regions, with their original culture evolving and growing also in the same regions. The Chinese people have never departed from their old homeground to establish a state at another place, nor have they ever left their own place to set up a state jointly with another people. But today, in Malaysia, the Chinese people are establishing a state actually jointly with another people; this is something that never happened in our culture, and hence there can be no previous example for us to follow in doing things. This is also a factor which has rendered us hesitant, and it most certainly merits our study.

Is the Chinese community united or divided? In the past, there has been division among different factions and groups. In Pennang, for instance, there used to be an association called Chinese Town Hall, and in Chinese it was called Pingzhang Huiguan. The main reason for the split was the division existing between the people of Fujian and the people of Guangdong. This was one example of the existence of factions and groups. Apart from this, our Chinese community has also undergone unprecedented changes in history. From 1941 to 1958, there was during this period the tyranny of Japan, the colonial rule of Britain, and then the birth of the independent

state. But, in particular, the Chinese were faced with a new situation in politics during that period when Malaya declared its state of emergency in 1948. In politics, they were divided between two camps: 1) the Leftists who attempted to seize political power by armed struggle, and 2) the Rightists who wished to achieve independence through a constitutional system. After 1969, the Rightists were further divided into two camps, which were later divided still further. On the basis of education, those Chinese who received English education and those who received Chinese education became two separate camps; this was a split derived from the different kinds of education they received. Today, over 60 percent of the Chinese children are studying in Chinese elementary schools, and over 30 percent of them are studying in Malay elementary schools; this shows that the split caused by the different kinds of education the Chinese receive is continuing.

The so-called Chinese culture has as its mainstay the spirit of Confucianism which partakes of virtues such as loyalty, filial piety, benevolence, love, fidelity, righteousness, harmony and peace, plus stoic perseverence and self-reliance, plus indulgence in one's own effort without blaming nature or other people and concentration on independent struggle. But, because of the change in the social structure of the Chinese community--a change from the society of scholars, farmers, artisans and merchants to a society of merchants, scholars, workers and farmers--the merchants eventually became more respected than others. The merchants, of course, pay attention especially to making profits, this is a truism since antiquity. The criterion according to which individuals originally used to rely on for the cultivation of their personal virtues, groups used to rely on fidelity and righteousness, and the masses used to rely on social ethics, is now lost, whereupon society becomes one where only money is exalted. The loss of social ethics has led to the emergence of an unhealthy leadership stratum. Because of the loss of such social ethics, three types of leaders have emerged as a result: 1) those who are smooth all around, making no distinction between and right and wrong, trying to placate everybody, knowing there can be no co-existence between the righteous and the devious, yet, because the masses seem to be unable to distinguish right from wrong, daring thus not to adopt any righteous stand and thereby to remove the devious from the scene; 2) those who induce others with material incentives and thereby recruit a contingent of cronies who would wave banners and raise voices in their behalf so as to maintain their positions; and 3) those who attempt to win a reputation by skillful manipulation and sheer deception and, once their goal is achieved, to get away with everything they have thus stolen quickly while people in the community are left on the lurch.

Because the spirit of the Chinese community has already become eroded, the leaders coming from its midst happen to be mostly also unhealthy. In the Chinese community today, very few are ardent, conscientious men who serve in the interests of the great majority. Those who dare to struggle for the realization of the interests of the great majority on the basis of a steadfast stand, dauntless spirit, and dedication to idealism are even

more scarce. In a word, it is very hard to find healthy leaders in a Chinese community which is sick in spirit. Above, we have already mentioned the causes and effects of split and division in the Chinese community. However, in the dark night of such split and division, a small flame of unity that has appeared is that a United Chinese Auditorium transcending all factions has been built. At present, there is a sign that a few rich persons who are desirous of making a contribution to the amelioration of conditions in the Chinese community, in conjunction with certain intellectuals and professionals who are sufficiently thoughtful, idealistic, and conscientious, seem to be attempting now to unite the Chinese community through activities at the United Chinese Auditorium.

Since the Chinese community has long been split and divided, are there still any factors promoting the unity of the Chinese? Yes, there are. First, there is the blood relationship. Second, there is the common life style. Third, there is the common destiny. And the most important among these is no other than common destiny. Because, be one originally from a Chinese province or born here in the Straits, be one educated in English or in Malaysian, all of us have a common anchorage, which is namely our common destiny. Under this premise, the main question is how are we going to march forward in unity in order to build our country together with our Malay brethren and our Indian brethren. Our political destiny and Malaysia's political destiny are forever united. Not only must we look at Malaysia as our native land during this generation, but our children and our children's children, too, must look at Malaysia as their native land, because only thus can we plan for our future. We must pledge our sincere allegiance to Malaysia and endeavor to strive for its prosperity. In order to solve our indecision, we must give full play to the righteous spirit of our traditional culture. We must give moral support to all those leaders who serve the majority on the basis of justice, so as to enable our children to enjoy the freedom and equality as prescribed in the Charter of the United Nations and to thereby lead a righteous spiritual life, and so as ultimately to enable every Malaysian child, to whatever race or religion he or she may belong, to seek a life of happiness freely, rationally and equitably. A life of happiness, so-called, should have both a spiritual and a material aspect. Therefore, we Chinese must unite ourselves today and pay attention to fostering our traditional fidelity and righteousness, especially social justice.

The founding of the Malaysian state is based on Western democracy, freedom and equality and on the spirit of legislative and judicial independence which is also first conceived in the West. It is not based on the Confucion, Legalist or Taoist ideology in Chinese culture. Precisely because of this, we must on the one hand change ourselves so as to adapt to this culture which is partly from the West, and on the other hand insist on maintaining the principles of democracy, freedom and equality. Because only after democracy, freedom and equality have taken root in Malaysian soil and flowered and borne fruit will it be possible for us to wipe off the indecision, puzzlement and loss in our minds.

Lo Jinshan Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Text] 1. Looking at the Future of the Chinese Community Through the Structure of the Chinese Community

In the past decade, unprecedentedly drastic changes have taken place in our society. Under the impact of economic and political currents, the framework of traditional culture on the part of the Chinese has become bankrupt in many important places whereas the society became somewhat unbalanced. During these years, the development of the Chinese community has been rather abnormal; its superficial prosperity could hardly conceal its impotence under a divisive spirit, and it was incapable of responding effectively to the challenges from without.

Culture is a composite body made up of many complex factors, including beliefs, knowledge, art, ethics, law, customs, and other talents and habits a member of the society has acquired. These factors which make up culture must evenly develop forward and in coordination with one another under a common mold of value before they can produce a living entity which is harmonious in form and rich in content. Today's Chinese community has already lost such a state of harmony and balance. Some factors have become fat and swollen because of over-development, while some factors have withered because their development has been hampered. Sickness has been the result. Our traditional culture, because it has been insulated from the living culture of its place of origin, has in turn become dislocated from its environmental realities. Consequently, it has become temporarily a closed system and thereby exhibits signs of regression. At such times of regression, we usually resort to rationalization in order to deny our problems and our failures; in so doing, we have tended to sacrifice the ability of the Chinese community to adapt to its environment in order to maintain our formalism. Today, the cultural system in the Chinese Community has already become stagnant and deficient in momentum; when it comes into contact with external cultures, it appears to be passive on every turn and very weak in its ability to adapt to or to selectively absorb such external cultures.

The traditional Chinese community which had been led by a stratum of "scholarly officials" became changed, once transplanted in Southeast Asia, into one under the control of "merchants." The "scholars" situated in the No 1 position among "scholars, farmers, artisans and merchants" in the old days have now fallen to the status of dependents to the "merchants". The so-called "scholars" are namely intellectuals of today. Good intellectuals are those who are learned and morally sound in character; they represent the wisdom and conscience of a given society, and their function is to serve as cultural representatives and to take up the responsibility of inheriting the past and developing the future as regards our traditional way of life. They hate vulgarity, and they are disposed to propose ideals, criticize the benighted rulers, uphold social justice so as to

establish an authority based on justice for the sake of balancing and checking the authority of the prevailing rulers. It is a pity that social conditions for producing or maintaining such a class of intellectuals no longer exist today.

During these recent years, conceived plans for the reorganization of society, urban development, transformation of certain professions, and population shifts have turned the traditional static society into a state of fluidity. The moral concepts of the original Chinese community have become gradually abandoned. For the sake of making profits in commerce, a great majority of the people have turned their backs on spiritual life; interpersonal relations are no longer based on righteousness but on realistic interests. Such a state of affairs is liable to emerge in any commercial society but, in the case of today's Chinese community, it happens to have been especially aggravated because a lack of punishment and control by free public opinion and independent cultural organizations. In our community, the power of money leaves no stone unturned in seeking to exert its influence; social justice has no chance of being served. Therefore, the young people have become the "marginal men" produced by our present education. A "marginal man" is namely a cultural hybrid who lives in a bicultural society but who, like a duckweed, penetrates neither cultural component. The personality of a marginal man belongs separately to two different worlds, one of which he has already departed and the other, he cannot get in. His mind wavers and is unstable. The marginal men of many cultures, under the perplexity of not knowing what to do or where to go, often become ill-adjusted in society or even become misfits, and some even resort to mischief. This is a factor which causes the Chinese community to lose its stability.

If it is going to resolve the spiritual crisis it faces and rid itself of such a cultural impediment, the Chinese community must seek to rectify itself, restore its internal balance, and go a step further to respond effectively to the challenges from without.

2. Looking at the Chinese Community's Adaptation and Revival through the Development of History

Before, the reason for the Chinese emigrants to come to Southeast Asia may be said to be no other than making money. They usually came from poor families and they had no worries insofar as culture was concerned. Therefore, as long as they found satisfaction in material rewards, it mattered very little whether they had to work like a horse or not. But what we pursue today is no longer such a baseful state of existence. What we pursue today is a dignified, meaningful life. Past history reveals that the Chinese have a character which bends in the face of adversity and hence they are capable of edging out a living in any society, however vicious it might happen to be. But, from the challenges we face today, it will not be very simple for us to live gloriously in this complicated state.

During the colonial period, the authorities needed an economic animal to dig natural resources and promote commodity circulation for them. The Chinese

who are hard-working and frugal and lacking in political ambitions precisely fitted to such a need. Therefore, the Chinese community rapidly developed at that time and took roots in the soil of our state.

After the conclusion of World War II, the society in China underwent rapid changes in its complexion. The old culture became completely uprooted and the Chinese in Southeast Asia, conservative by nature, prove no longer able to identify themselves with China's new culture. At the same time, colonialism began to decline; our country gradually marched toward independence. The Chinese community harbored a rather optimistic thought, anticipating that, after the bondage of the colonialists was done away with, much more should be feasible and accomplished. They therefore strove to catch up with the spirit of the time, respond to the call by their brethren, actively joined the ranks of those who went forward to help build their country, and were determined to take this newly emergent country as their permanent home.

During the first 10 years after independence, people of the Chinese community continued to submerge themselves in the commercial and industrial circles; in doing so, they succeeded in establishing a good foundation for the material development of this newly emergent state. The new generation of Chinese after the war grew up precisely in such an environment of stability and prosperity. They gradually lost the adventurous and daring spirit of their predecessors, as well as the profound character that could only emerge through difficult tests. During this period, the Chinese community gradually found itself incapable of adapting to the political developments and cultural currents in the country, but it was their belief that money could accomplish everything and felt quite complacent because of the superficial economic power they had already come to possess.

The waves aroused in 1969 woke up the Chinese community from its enchanted dream. They discovered that just to make money could by no means bring protection for a comfortable life. In reality, to be a subject in a colony and to become a citizen in a newly emergent state constituted two different things. As subjects in a colony, people needed only to strive to produce as much as possible, make money, and everything would be all right. So long as they refrained from disturbing the public order, they could also maintain their individual cultures and ways of life. But, as citizens of a sovereign state, they must develop in coordination with other ethnic groups in politics, economics, culture and education and other aspects of their activities and can no longer close their doors and stick to what they used to do, least they drown in the main current of the country's development.

At present, the Chinese community finds itself in a period of metamorphosis. In the process of such a passage of time, the adaptation of the Chinese community to its environment is bound to harbor a certain degree of cultural particularity. Very obviously, today's Malaysian Chinese and the Chinese in China have already become two different entities functioning in two different situations.

3. The Meaning and Distination of the Existence of the Chinese Community

If the three races of Malaysia can march toward harmony and form a unitary Malaysian nation gradually, just like the five nationalities in China that have merged into a harmonious people, then it would be unnecessary for us to talk about the meaning of the existence of the Chinese community. It is a pity that, when we face the cold reality, we discover that it is still quite a distance from our ideal.

We all know that the three races in Malaysia, because of the differences between their religions, languages, cultural backgrounds and customs in life, rarely intermarried and hence their blood is not in any way mixed. Our situation is quite different from that in Thailand. There, Chinese and Thais, through a hundred years of mixed marriages in large scale, have reached a degree of harmony parallel to that between water and milk. The boundary between the Chinese community and Thai community has become less and less distinctive. Therefore, whether or not the Chinese community exists in Thailand is not very important to the existence of the individual Chinese there. But with us here, the barriers between the races are still quite steep. For a hundred years, the different races have sought to have their respective developments in different worlds, and this has led to today's signs of imbalance in the Malaysian society. This has likewise led to the situation wherein people within each race feel a separate destiny they share internally, whereupon a sense of individual racial distinction is likewise aroused. As a result, each race proceeds to do its best to maintain and protect the existence and development of its own individual society. The interrelationship between the races becomes very subtle. When reflected in the political form of the state, such an interrelationship is very conspicuous. Such an unhealthy phenomenon cannot be corrected overnight. Hence, at least in the next few generations the multiracial society will continue to exist and multiracial politics will continue to dominate the people's lives. But, in such a small state with a small population as Malaysia, no destiny of any race can be an isolated thing. The collective activity of one race is bound to arouse reaction of another race, and the development of one race must be coordinated with that of another race before society can achieve any stability. When one race strives to win the rights due them, they must demonstrate that they have a lofty goal and only this can they be respected by the other races.

We all know that racialism generally stems from the instinct of man's self-protection, and also from the sense of collective identity left from primitive times. Its emergence illustrates the existence of situations of imbalance or inequity inside the state. In order to eliminate this root of illness, we must on the one hand support efforts designed to rectify such imbalance between the races, and, on the other hand, remain vigilant against extremism in effecting such rectification.

In this connection, the goal to which the Chinese community is oriented should be a culturally integrated Malaysian society. Because only after this common culture has taken shape will it be possible for the isolation

between people to disappear, and for the people not to split from one another. If we look at the original cultures of our three great races in this country, whether they are traceable to Arabia, India or China, they all share a common characteristic--that is, they all are tended toward spiritual values and toward overcoming material desires, upholding benevolence and righteousness, searching for fidelity, justice, harmony and peace, and pursuing the ideal of cosmopolitanism. It was these three cultures together that produced the spiritual civilization of the East.

There being this common characteristic, plus the fact that the three races also share a common destiny, need and expect it, it should not be difficult for us to establish a common value system. Under this system, each race respects the cultural heritage of the other, each allows its own culture to interchange with the culture of the other so that all three cultures tend to integrate themselves. This way, a culture with the general Malaysian character should thus be able to take shape. This is an ideal. Whether or not this ideal can be realized not only affects the position of the Chinese community in this nation, but also is closely linked to the fate of our entire country.

Xie Tianping Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p11

[Text] In order to understand the past and future of the "Chinese community," we must understand the historical background of Malaysia; the cultural character of the Chinese community, the motive force and challenge of state development, and the pressure, difficult problems and opportunities they bring to the Chinese community. If we overlook any of the above factors, it would be difficult for us to come up with a comprehensive, objective analysis.

The social structure and culture of Malaysia today are the products of colonialism. Consciously or unconsciously, Britain's colonial system and policy in Malaysia encouraged and modeled the formation of the social and cultural structures of today.

Malaysia's special multiracial social structure and culture is a key factor in policymaking for state development and social reorganization; it is also an important basis on which an understanding of the dilemma of development for the Chinese community in Malaysia may be achieved.

The position which Chinese descendants occupy in Malaysia's historical and social development is unique, and the contribution they have made is comprehensive. From the Chinese chapters of the various provinces of the 17th and 18th centuries, including events surrounding Ye-de-lai in Selangor, we can see the motive force and contribution of the early Chinese in their participation and help in Malaysia's development. Before and after the war, the role played in the various realms of state development by outstanding Chinese

personalities such as Kuala Lumpur's mining potentate Lu Yu, Malacca's robber plantation pioneer Zhen Qizian, Malacca's policy leaders Sir Zhen Zhenlu and others, and the role played by certain people who became citizens of Chinese ancestry after the war in the development and construction work of the social economy, have been most prominent.

It is also a characteristic of the Chinese community that, by the time the war was concluded, the development of the Chinese community and culture, including social organizations, associations of fellow natives, schools, and cultural organizations, had already established a profound social outlook and pattern of cultural behavior. To a considerable degree, the Chinese community after the war and before independence was "a society within a society." But, the challenge brought to the Chinese community by the state and its political demands and the adaptation and efforts made by the Chinese themselves have proved one fact: the potential for the individual birth of a new "Chinese community" did exist. As a matter of fact, this was a transitional period in the development of the state and society; in a state and a social environment of radical change, the existence of pressure, contradictions, and sense of instability was self-evident. These were the charae teristics faced by the Chinese community in its entry into the new realm, the new stage of development. In an attempt to "control development" in the process of state and social reorganization, the government reduced social poverty and united the entire population through its new economic policies; this served to bring the Chinese community into a realm of development which was even more full of challenge, a challenge ruled against the traditional social and cultural concepts and economic distribution. Under such circumstances, crises like those developed in other developing countries in terms of "cultural crisis" and "crisis of identification" came to manifest themselves in an even more drastic way in the Chinese community. Even "economic crisis," whether imagined or real, likewise became a disturbing factor and also an important factor in the understanding of the future of the Chinese community.

Looking forward, it may be more appropriate to suggest a few central questions than arbitrarily speculate or reach certain one-sided conclusions about the future of the Chinese community--having thus understood the above-stated factors as to the Chinese community's forward development. At the present stage, five particular questions may be proposed for our reference here:

1. Is it possible for the "Chinese community" to join the main current of the state's economic development and thereby to unfold its nationalistic and decisive influence and contributions?

2. It is possible for the Chinese community's social organizations, associations of fellow natives, schools and cultural institutions to attain breakthrough results in their work to promote social goodwill and propel social welfare?

3. Is it to be possible for the Chinese community to adapt to its environment and thereby adopt, in the various realms (including the economy), new concepts, new methods, and, under the constitutional spirit of self-respect, maintain the legitimate rights of its citizens as well as the overall interests of the state and society?

4. Can the political vitality of the Chinese community be fostered so that it might become the central guidance to the spirit and thinking of the Chinese community?

5. Is it possible for the Chinese community to further understand itself, revive itself, and make itself stronger and bigger? Is it possible for it to master its historic opportunity and responsibility, so as to give full play to its positive, constructive contribution to history and society?

The future, adaptation and resurgence of the Chinese community are connected to the answers to these questions.

What can be definitely affirmed is that the birth of a new Malaysian society and the formation of new value concepts and cultural trends will gradually shorten the distance between the Chinese community and the national society. The Chinese community has now already entered the stage of social mass grouping and social development on the part of the Chinese descendants. Questions such as conflicts and contradictions between the new and the old amongst the Chinese themselves, such as those pertaining to their optimum existence and development, can most certainly not be solved by some simple answers.

What can be emphasized is that the future and development of the masses of the Chinese descendants are connected together with the fate also of the other nationalities in Malaysia.

Zheng Liangshu Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Text] In order to facilitate our explanation and interpretation before this forum, I have divided the Chinese community into two great social groups: one is traditional organizations, and one is non-traditional organizations. Among the traditional organizations are associations based on blood relations, locality relations, and part on professional relations. Among the non-traditional organizations are political parties, alumni associations and part on associations based on professional relations. The traditional organizations are closely related to Chinese culture, and, at the same time, they are also connected with China historically. At least a part of the non-traditional organizations are contrary to these.

In a traditional organization, the power structure is like the composition of an atom: before power is engendered, the various associations and unions would each run its own affairs. When a new power is about to take shape,

it must secure the support of many associations and unions before it can become a reality. Observing from history and from what is revealed through social surveys, we know that the birth of a new power in a traditional organization comes through the following two ways: First, a new leader is concurrently serving in positions of importance in several associations and unions--in this case, these associations and unions are most likely of a great many varieties in nature, including national ones, blood-related ones, locality-related ones, and professionally grouped ones--and it is through his personal link that influence is exerted, and mobility is engendered, throughout the Chinese community. Second, a new threat affecting their culture or their existence arrives; a certain leader, basing himself on his personal prowess, starts a new movement, and so mobilizes the whole Chinese community. It is through these two ways alone that a traditional organization may yield its new power. For this reason, we may say this--that traditional organizations exhibit two weaknesses: 1) Before a new power takes shape, one association would act all by itself irrespective of any other association, and there may not be any communication at all, as a matter of fact, between any two associations. 2) The emergence of a new power takes years of struggle and fight, with even personal relations, whether one's financial strength is adequate enough, how much is the external pressure going to be and other questions of the like must be taken into consideration, too. Hence, the emergence of such a new power is both difficult and slow. 3) Steps taken by the constituent associations and unions are far from consistent; their spirits are often dissipated; and sometimes they even connive against one another.

Among the non-traditional organizations, the one whose membership happens to be the broadest and whose influence happens to be most extensive is a political party organized by those who have received British education and Malaysian education. A political party has a close-knit organization, a national charter, with its overall condition somewhat like that of an army. Therefore, it does not have the weaknesses as those of a traditional organization.

After illustrating the organizational structure of the Chinese community, let us now take a look at the history of the Chinese people. And from the history of the Chinese people, we may find the interrelationship between history and social organization.

If we look back at the tens of years of development on the part of the Chinese in Malaysia, we may discover that, because of differences in educational background and lack of uniformity in the use of dialects, the constituencies of the whole Chinese community have never been able to advance forward on an even keel. Between the abovementioned two social groups, members of the traditional organizations mostly speak certain dialects and Chinese in general, whereas the non-traditional organizations may be differentiated into several cases: those of alumni associations usually speak Chinese; therefore they are united with the traditional organizations; members of the upper strata in the Chinese political parties

usually speak Malay and English, and they thus form a separate segment. Differences in linguistic education result in the different ways in which they look at politics, culture, and ethics. Different ways of looking at things such as these, from the point of view of historical development, sometimes have a good influence on the Chinese community, but sometimes they are more likely to have an adverse impact.

Before World War II, because Malaysia was not yet independent, there was no object to which the Chinese could pledge their allegiance. The object with which the Chinese feel politically identified is China. Because of this tendency, the traditional type of Chinese organizations thus became, on the basis of their relations in respect to Chinese culture, Chinese blood and localities, almost the whole of the Chinese community. At that time, the question confronting the Chinese community. At that time, the question confronting the Chinese community was "how to proceed toward the destination" but not "which destination to aim at." Even though there were still organizations like Straits Association of British Citizens of Chinese Background at that time, but, on account of the situation of the time, they were scarcely of any appreciable influence.

After the war, nationalism gradually raised its head in the various countries; Malaya was no exception. The object of political identification for the Chinese had to be changed, so that they could adjust to the political development in Malaya. At this time, the traditional organizations of the Chinese, unconcealably, could hardly make the change right away. Whereupon, people of certain non-traditional organizations, through the expediency of the fact that they had already merged with certain indigenous people, began to represent the Chinese in having their voices heard and in providing leadership for the Chinese community. Because they had had very little to do with China, nor was their relationship with Chinese culture very close, it was possible for them to feel immediately identified with the local government and politics. In addition, their language and educational background fitted in with those of the indigenous people nicely. Hence, for the purpose of adapting to political developments of the time, they very naturally became selected into the leading strata in the Chinese community, whereupon they organized a social welfare institution to look after the interests of the Chinese.

At that time, this leadership institution was built over all organizations of the Chinese, with associations and unions appointing their own representatives to enter that institution. We may therefore say that this new institution meshed in nicely with the Chinese community as a whole; it was a stratum made up of leading personalities built over and above the associations and unions. Under their leadership, the Chinese community shifted its object of identification, taking their locality as their native land. Later, this welfare institution developed into a political party according to earlier plan.

Since the Chinese community now already had a political party, and this political party, because of the different linguistic and educational

background of its leadership stratum, was no longer structured over traditional Chinese organizations, we can then observe that by this time the Chinese community began to evolve into this kind of situation; the traditional organizations maintained their original outlook; a new organization with politics as its goal had emerged; the two organizations were originally so situated that one was above the other, but now they had become parallel to each other, each with its own membership, its own leadership stratum, and each claiming to represent the Chinese community. The greatest difference between them was that their dialects and their educational backgrounds were dissimilar and, because of this, their political concepts, their cultural orientations, and their ethical values had become likewise dissimilar. Because of such dissimilarity in the workings of their dialects and educational backgrounds, their goals, above all, also differed from each other. At this time, the crucial question presenting itself in the Chinese community was thus no longer "how to proceed toward the destination" but "which destination to aim at."

After we entered the 1970's, according to my own observation, the Chinese community appears to have once more faced a test of its sense of identification. This sense of identification is namely that of "cultural identification." The traditional organizations of the Chinese called upon the Chinese to identify with the culture of their own people, whereas those Chinese who speak other than Chinese or any of the dialects exhibited a tendency to identify themselves externally. According to the government's established policy, the so-called national culture of Malaysia is to be based mainly on the Islamic culture of the Malays, with other peoples' cultures attached as subcultures only. Under this premise, citizens of Malaysia must identify themselves with this culture. This time, how is our Chinese community to make its choice?

If the traditional organizations of the Chinese still choose to leave their weaknesses intact, if the Chinese political party still chooses to maintain a position of equality and parallel activity in relation to Chinese traditional organizations, and if the Chinese community still allows the differences to persist amidst two or three kinds of linguistic usage and educational backgrounds, then it is my belief that in the foreseeable future the Chinese community will forever maintain the situation of two polarized power centers which cannot find common ground to move forward together because of their different goals.

Li Yelin Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Text] The structure of the Chinese community is based on two forces: one is the force of traditional society, including the fellow natives association as a regional organization and the family association as a blood organization; the other is the force of that of commercial capital, including professional unions and commercial guilds as vocational organizations. With

Chinese schools, the Chinese press, and political parties that represent the interests of the Chinese added to the two forces, we have what may be termed the five pillars of the Chinese community which constitute the five motivating powers upon which the existence and development the entire Chinese community depend. Without them, the Chinese community would collapse.

The coterie (bang) is a major characteristic feature of the Chinese community structure. It is a social group which represents a special dialect. It strengthens the regional relationship and places emphasis on the small group concept on the one hand, and, on the other hand, breaks through the strictly regional relationship and facilitates the emergence of the large group concept. In history, while the Qingyun Ting in Malacca appeared in the form of a temple, it was actually a Fujian coterie organization entirely under the control of people from Zhangzhou and Quanzhou--an organization which represented the will of the people also precisely of those two prefectures. As such, it fully fulfilled its function as a regional organization, sought to reinforce the unity of those people in pursuit of common interests, and thereby also to promote their unity on a professional basis. Leaders serving the different terms of office at Qingyun Ting temple were also leaders of the Fujian coterie. They exercised the power granted by the coterie with a view to pursuing the interests of the people of Fujian and protecting their interests accordingly. In Malacca there were also social groups based on different regional backgrounds and different dialects which, for the sake of achieving their respective goals of sharing the prevailing prosperity while coexisting with parallel groups and striving for a status of relative parity with respect to the Qingyun Ting of the Fujian coterie, also pooled themselves together to form another force and established a Sanduo Miao temple. This group represented by Sanduo Miao included Guangfu natives who speak Cantonese, Shaoqing natives who speak impure Cantonese, Huizhou natives who speak Hakka dialect and others in this same category such as natives of Dapu, Jiayinzhou, Fengshun, and Yungding in Fujian. An organization like Sanduo Miao was precisely one which broke through regional and linguistic limits, making it possible for groups of different regional and linguistic backgrounds to eliminate their parochial sentiments and unite with one another for the sake of their common interests. This illustrates that the coterie and coterie power were capable of performing a function to divide as well as to unite the different regions. This likewise illustrates the resilience and the fragility of regional relationship in the Chinese community.

From the end of the Qing Dynasty up to the pre-1949 period, there were several waves of emigration among the people of Fujian and Guangdong; they surged in big groups toward the overseas areas one wave after another. In order to adapt to their needs in actual life at the time, they established within their respective coterie jurisdictions many large and small regional and blood groups which in reality performed positive social and economic roles. Even today, the effectiveness of these roles is far from lost. But, along with changes in the objective environment, the regional and blood groups in the Chinese community should take up their tasks of the day and

make efforts in new directions in conjunction with the development of the state and society as a whole. They should give full play to their positive social, economic, cultural and educational roles, pursue the interests of the entire Chinese community, protect the rights due all Chinese, and cooperate hand-in-hand with other racial and ethnic groups in order to establish a fair, prosperous and wealthy society.

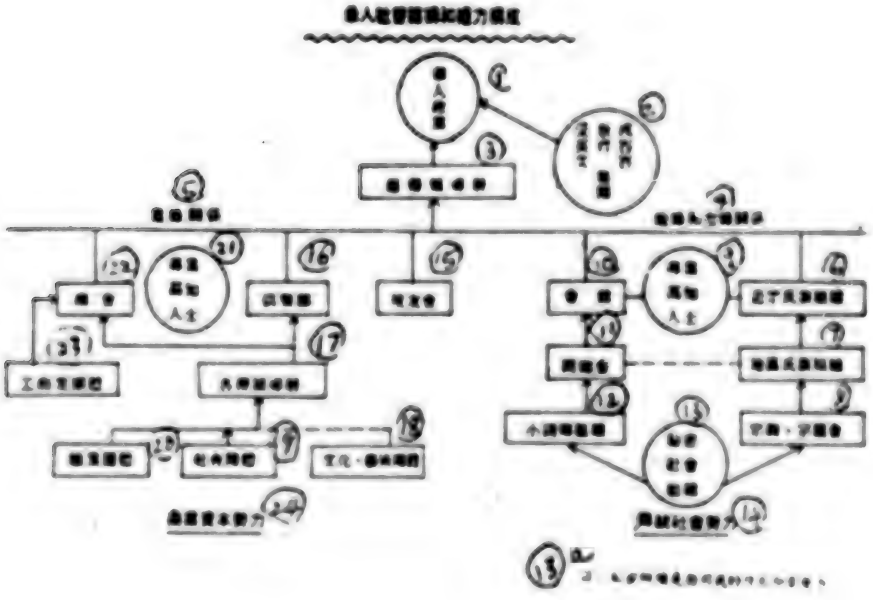
A very special feature in the structure of the Chinese community in Penang is that the coterie development there is marked by a heavy clannish concept. In the past, there have been people in Penang with such popular family names as Qiu, Yang, Xie, Lin, Zhen, Gu, and Cai. They formed their coterie groups on the basis mainly of such a family system and these played a great role in society during the period of sustained emigration. This role was namely the exercise of family power, which promoted unity in turn on a professional basis and thereby yielded great cohesiveness among their members. Family power is a social power which takes shape on the basis of blood links. Three factors contribute to the formation of family power: 1) there must be a family temple where the ancestors are worshiped in common; 2) there must be a definite amount of family property to serve as the family's economic foundation; and 3) there must be a set of family regulations obeyed by all members and member groups of the family and also family leaders who enforce those regulations so that they can effect control over the clansmen. Together, these make up a system of power.

Ye Yalai was a great hero in the history of the Chinese in this region. He was the third captain of Chinese background in Selangor who rose after Qiu Xiu and Liu Renguang. After his death, Ye Zhiying succeeded him. After Ye Zhiying's death, there were three successor candidates at the time: one was Zhao Yu from Tanshan; the second was Ye Hanjin (elder son of Ye Yalai); and the third was mining tycoon Ye Guansheng. If ability, financial strength and reputation were accepted as the relevant criteria, Zhao Yu should have been elected. But the Hakka coterie happened to by Kuala Lumpur's most powerful group. Taking into consideration the role of coterie power among the Chinese, the Chairman of the Executive Council at the time, Maxwell, selected Ye Guansheng as the captain. If he had selected Zhao Yu of the Guangfu coterie as Captain, he would have caused dissatisfaction among members of the Hakka coterie. But the strengths of Guangfu and Shaofu in Kuala Lumpur at the time were by no means insignificant; they, as a matter of fact, made up a force next only to the Hakka coterie. The chairman of the Executive Council therefore appointed Zhao Yu to another post as an assemblyman of the Selangor provincial assembly. Thus, for the first time, there appeared two Chinese representatives in the ranks of the Selangor provincial assembly. The reason the British Government made such an arrangement was precisely because they had taken into consideration this subtle exercise of coterie powers in the Chinese community and thereby sought to put the powers of the two coterie groups well in balance in such an appropriate arrangement.

Apart from the above, we need to discuss the question of the role played by indigenous Chinese in the Chinese community. Native-born Chinese who received an English education were called Straits Chinese or dada in the

past. They were a considerable social force that could not be overlooked. They had the cultural backgrounds of the Chinese, the Malays as well as the Europeans; they received a good education, and they were relatively rich. Their action sometimes caused divisions in the entire Chinese community. On August 17, 1900, they organized themselves into the Straits Chinese British Association and started to publish the "Straits Chinese Magazine" in order to propagate their way of life and political consciousness, which had to do namely with the question of protecting their interests. They held that they must pledge allegiance to the British Government, participate in the governing process, and seek to win benefits for the Chinese merchants in the councils of the provincial assembly. Early leaders of the Straits Chinese British Association like Dr Lin Wenqing, physician Wu Liande, lawyer Song Wangxiang, etc., were all outstanding personalities. Lin Wenqing and others also started a movement to promote the study of the Chinese language and speaking Chinese too, plus the propagation of Confucianism. In politics, Sir Zhen Zenlu may be said to be a representative personality. Today, the Chinese who have received an English education have already lost the status they used to enjoy under protection in the colonial days; their destiny is now consistent with that of the Chinese who have received only a Chinese education. The Chinese community should try to win their support and sympathy, allow them to join the Chinese community as part of its mainstay, so as to amplify the strength of the Chinese community and let them have a greater opportunity to make a contribution to the development of the state and society.

Chart on the Social Structure and Power Composition of the Chinese



Key

1. Chinese political party
2. Groups whose members have received an English education or are Straits Chinese
3. Leadership stratum transcending the various coterie groups
4. Regional and blood relationships
5. Professional and vocational relationships
6. Closer family groups
7. Regional family groups
8. Family temple, clan association
9. Professionals of high intellectual status
10. Regional association
11. Association of fellow native (from small localities)
12. Association of fellow natives from a specific small locality
13. Secret social organizations

13a. Note: By secret social organizations are meant the forces of private associations and parties organized during the period of sustained emigration from China

14. Traditional social forces
15. Alumni association
16. Clubs
17. Leaders of the various coterie groups
18. Cultural and artistic groups
19. Social groups
20. Professional groups
21. Professionals of high intellectual status
22. Merchants association
23. Industrial and commercial groups
24. Forces of commercial capital

Zhen Qingnian Speech

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH in Chinese 20 Aug 79 p 11

[Text] This forum has placed emphasis on scholarly discussions. Therefore, I would like to merely express the views of a journalist on the main theme of this forum from the historical and social angle.

Concerning the first subtheme under the main theme of this forum--Looking at the Future of the Chinese Community from the Social Structure of the Chinese Community--it is my opinion that we must first point out the structure of the Chinese community and then proceed to "the future of the Chinese community" in a cause-and-effect analysis. Here, I am going to point out no other aspects of the structure of the Chinese community but only its several special features.

1. The Chinese community harbors many marginal-man elements, and this fact also constitutes one of its special features. The community, in other words, is a mixture of both new and old things.

2. The Chinese community also has the special feature of having undergone changes in its material outlook but remained stagnant in its spiritual outlook.

3. The Chinese community retains a certain homeostasis--somewhat like an automatic thermostat which is capable of adjusting itself in accordance with any environmental changes so as to maintain a definite temperature. It is also somewhat like an organism in a state of slow evolution and balance which is able to sustain changes in the biological process.

4. The traditional humanist spirit in the Chinese community may be said to be a kind of "metaphysics"; it lies between the platonic philosophy of "metaphysics" and Sartre's theory of "existentialism" in the West. This kind of humanist spirit not only plays a role in respect to social crises-serving to facilitate the establishment of harmonious interpersonal relations and the normalization of man's social life--but also affords an adjusting function in respect to the state of instability in the process of history's sometimes forward and sometimes backward development.

Its adverse function is: sometimes it deteriorates into weakness, into defects.

5. The Chinese community structure may itself be said to be a special feature in the sense that, even if it may not be a carriage drawn by many horses, it is liable to be characterized as an orchestra without a conductor which thus emanates plenty of irritating noises at times.

6. The Chinese community is a collective body made up of hardworking individuals of great potential.

7. The form of the Chinese community structure is rather primitive and not modern enough. And the evolution of the Chinese community has been obviously out of step with the changes of the time, which it cannot catch up with.

People, of course, cannot just look at the consequences and neglect the causes.

From the above-outlined special features of the Chinese community, it is not hard for people to see why it is possible for the Chinese community to have little confidence in its own future.

Therefore, in order to rectify the course of development of a thing through the clarification of the source of its growth, let us return to the study of the causes. Only thus shall we be able to help bring about a new spiritual outlook in the Chinese community, enable it to put up a new courage and perseverance, and thereby change its insufficiently firm confidence in the future into a success that will benefit others as well as itself. Only thus shall we be able, in the face of difficulties, to calmly exert our "positive thinking" and walk straight up to meeting those difficulties.

Only thus shall we be able to actively ascertain all opinions and possibilities that may strengthen our confidence in the future, refrain from deceiving ourselves, explaining away our mistakes, blaming our failures on others, or covering up our errors in judgment. Let us turn our glance back at our own Chinese community, take note of its latent qualities and its latent strengths, understand ourselves, understand others, reform ourselves, develop ourselves, bring out patience, bring out our potential, bring out enthusiasm, bring out our morale, bring out our confidence, so as to help create a bright future for the Chinese community.

But we must remember one principle here, that is, this is not something that any single individual is going to be able to accomplish.

Looking at the Community's Adaptation and Revival from its History of Development

Historical determinism is too partial and narrow. First of all, the Chinese community must negate this concept. The Chinese community should believe that man has the freedom to create history, and that man is also responsible to history.

After this premise is firmly established, what we must first concern ourselves with is this: "what each individual can do for the Chinese community" and "what contributions greater social unity and harmony can make." As we consider the principle for integrating the Chinese community, we must likewise consider the principle of integrating the entire society.

The connotation of a society's integrity is this: Man has individual needs and also separate group needs as well as collective needs. Man has economic needs and also educational, cultural and political needs. People cannot, because of this group's needs, exert their group force in order to negate that group's or individual's needs and dignities. On the contrary, man should not, because of his individual needs or that group's interests, damage this group's interests. By the same token, people should not, because of their political and economic needs, make any excuse to negate their needs in culture, education and other aspects of life.

Because the basic principles of democracy and freedom are to affirm society's integrity, to allow people to enjoy all freedom that does not impinge on other people's rights and to develop their needs in all aspects of their life.

From the Chinese community's process of development, we can see that the Chinese community has always followed the abovementioned principles.

Therefore, under the premise that the values of democracy and freedom be affirmed, the possibility of the Chinese community's relevant adaptation and revival should be positively existent.

That this possibility does exist is also because any abnormal phenomenon is bound to be limited in time and space, and [its passing sooner or later] can be proved to be a law of history itself.

The regularly used philosophy of adaptation in the Chinese community is "to adapt to change according to the opportunity it presents" and "to cope with all changes through non-change." But times have changed, and this has reduced the effectiveness of traditional philosophies of adaptation. A new philosophy of adaptation requires not only a close coordination of theory and practice but it must also be a fresh philosophy of collective adaptation.

The Chinese community should, on the basis of the abovementioned positive features of its structure and of changing its negative features into positive features, apply them in a down-to-earth way on a civilization which advances at a steady pace to weather all climates. It should conduct itself as if it is equipped with an automatic compass and a safety valve, so that its life and vitality are preserved under all circumstances and it is capable ultimately to reach the destination of the Chinese community's self-reorganization, making it possible for itself to achieve "revival" at the same time as it strives through its "own efforts" to exert the adaptive capability with which its collective entity is endowed.

The Meaning and Goal of the Existence of the Chinese Community

The Chinese are born here, grow up here, and will also die here. Their conduct and their personalities are all nurtured by the air and the soil of the place of their birth and growth. This feeling is linked to the blood and sweat of the ancestors of the Chinese for several hundred years. Therefore, the meaning of the existence of the Chinese community is for us to adopt a responsible attitude before history. It is also for us to pray and hope that, in a reasonable and fair objective environment, it shall be able to make due contributions to the prosperity, progress, stability and peace of the whole country and society.

The goal of the existence of the Chinese community should also be like that of the United States of America, which is a multiracial society of immigrants, where every individual and every group feels responsible yesterday, today, as well as tomorrow toward the goal of creating a rich and powerful and enviable state together with a forthright and harmonious society. Toward the prosperity of the state it must have a heartfelt sense of responsibility and, again on a basis similar to that of the Americans, though a people different from us, dedicate its body and its soul for the realization of this goal.

Since this goal has thus been selected, the Chinese community should come up with all feasible approaches in order to try to attain this goal and also do all it can for its realization. A goal makes one feel tense and gives one pressure. Under objective conditions at the present, pressure happens to be especially great. But people may still reasonably expect that, after

some foreseeable vicissitudes, every individual group will still be able to feel identified with this lofty goal, acknowledge the value similar to that of any social entity, and turn itself into a bridge leading to that harmonious society. Only with every individual and every individual group identifying with this goal will society have its relevant basis and acquire its stability. As for the parts of the objective criterion with which no such sense of identification can be felt, we should, along with our striving toward such common identification, also try to exercise our spirit of understanding, preserve our capacity for tolerating differences, and respect such differences on the part of others. If one day this concept should become acceptable to every group, then it will mean a reduction of the tension and the pressure, and it will likewise make the realization of the above-stated goal by the Chinese community easier.

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DRILLING PROGRAM CALLED ADDED FOUNDATION TO CLAIM IN ANTARCTICA

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Nov 79 Sec 1, p 6

[Editorial: "NZ Stakes Polar Claim"]

[Text] New Zealand's major scientific effort in Antarctica this summer--probing the sedimentary seabed of McMurdo Sound beneath two metres of pack ice--may reveal how world weather patterns have altered over the past 50 million years. The drilling programme does, however, fulfill another purpose in giving added foundation to this country's claim to a large segment of the frozen continent.

A creditable contribution to antarctic research has been made by New Zealand scientists and, since the Antarctic Treaty was signed by 13 nations in Wellington in 1959, this country has maintained a year-round presence on the ice. Many would regard these endeavours as sufficient to give substance to the territorial claim, but, as Antarctica assumes new importance in the world-wide search for minerals and marine life, envious eyes are looking towards the icy "waste."

The United States and the Soviet Union do not recognise the territorial claims exercised by seven countries on the continent. Although both super powers maintain scientific bases in Antarctica, neither has a cut of the cartographic cake. Yet both have strong interest in developing Antarctica's resources, which may include oil, coal, copper and uranium.

None of the expected resources has yet been proven but, already, several nations have boosted their presence on the ice preparatory to what could be a land-grab situation.

Australia has increased its annual expenditure on antarctic research by 76.2 percent to $21.5 million and intends to rebuild all of its bases over the next 10 years. West Germany will this month launch a three-year research programme, and Argentina is reported to have established an army base in Graham Land (where Antarctica's first "citizen" is said to have been born this year). The United States summer programme will see about 600 Americans on the ice.

The treaty which has provided a measure of protection for the fragile ecology of Antarctica expires in 1991, but the pressure to find new sources of oil and other minerals could well make exploitation on the continent a reality before that date. Exploitation with scant environmental controls could be disastrous, not only for Antarctica but for a large part of the world. The krill, one of the sea's basic foodstuffs, could be destroyed, the ice shelf which is held in such fine balance could begin to break up. Indeed, the consequences could even be catastrophic.

For New Zealand to claim sovereignty and exclusive rights in a large portion of Antarctica would be unreasonable in the face of world demands for minerals. However, by showing the world that it has a meaningful and sustained commitment in the area, this country may have a strong voice in the determination of the conditions under which such resources can be recovered.

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COCONUT EXPORTS NEARING $1 BILLION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Dec 79 p 27

[Text] Exports of coconut products during the 11 months of the year reached more than $950 million, which is only $50 million shy of the billion-dollar projection of the Philippine coconut authority, with one month still unaccounted for.

It will be the first time that $1 billion would be earned by any one agricultural industry in any one year.

The exact total for the 11 months was $951,5[illegible]0,620, which is already 17 per cent higher than $814,650,825 recorded during the same period last year.

However, export volume which totaled 1,421,969 metric tons in copra terms was 25 per cent lower than the 1,904,679 tonnage registered in 1978.

Coconut oil continued to be the top dollar earning coco item, generating dollar receipts amounting to $692,190,249 from shipments of 742,230 metric tons, an increase of 29 per cent. However, volume was 97 per cent lower.

Average price for the period was 38.38 cents per pound, which is 3.4 per below the month-ago level of 39.77 cents a pound.

Dollar earnings from desiccated coconut reached $94,442,121 generated from shipments of 76,026 metric tons, an increase of 24 per cent from receipts of the preceding year's 11-month period. Volume was also down by 40 per cent.

Average price recorded for the period was $60.24 per 100-lb. bag, 40.78 per cent higher.

Receipts for copra meal and cake totaled $70,880,55[illegible] generated from 459,8[illegible]2 metric tons during the 11 months this year, an increase of 1[illegible].6 per cent from the same period last year. Volume also was down by 4.53 per cent.

Copra meal price averaged $160.04 per metric ton, 15.32 per cent higher.

Coconut shell earnings totaled $602,712, a whooping 289 per cent increase from only $154,945 the previous year. In contrast with the other coconut products, volume of coconut shell exports rose by 183 per cent to 3,543 metric tons. Average price was $170 per MT, up 37 per cent.

Activated carbon receipts stood at $7,099,294 generated from shipments of 6,886 metric tons, which is 46.26 per cent above the 1978 level. Volume again was down, recording a 19.35 per cent drop to 6,886 metric tons. Average price recorded for the period was $1,002.36 per metric ton, or 40.03 per cent over the preceding year.

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STUDY PROPOSED ON AUSTRALIAN IMPORTS PHILIPPINES COULD PROVIDE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Dec 79 p 26

[Text]

The Philippines-Australia Business Cooperation Committee (PABCC) will undertake a comprehensive market research study on the US$11 billion worth of products being imported by Australia which can be supplied by the Philippines, it was announced yesterday by Jose Concepcion Jr. following his reelection as chairman of PABCC.

At the organizational meeting of the newly-elected PABCC board, Concepcion announced that the major thrust of PABCC's work program for 1980 would be to help increase Philippine exports to Australia.

Concepcion said a major problem we encounter in exporting to Australia is the high cost of freight. He said PABCC will convene a meeting of the heads of sectoral industries with substantial exports to Australia and officials of the shipper's council to discuss methods and ways by which the problem of high shipping cost from here to Australia can be alleviated.

Concepcion stated that PABCC is now actively cooperating with Deputy of Trade Vicente Valdepeñas Jr. in the preparatory work involved, including studies on how the Philippines can avail of a larger share of the Australian market, and how the private sector can assist in actual market surveys of the overall Australian market.

According to Concepcion, the vital role PABCC and its counterpart in Australia will take in promoting mutually beneficial trade bonds between the two countries will increasingly become significant over the long-term especially because of the recent establishment by the Philippines and Australian government of a joint commission designed to strengthen trade ties between the two countries.

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BRIEFS

RP OIL EARNINGS--The Philippines' revenues from oil being commercially produced from the Nido complex off central Philippines have already surpassed 100 million US dollars since February, according to Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco. Minister Velasco in a published interview today said that until last month, the four wells of northwest Palawan Island produced a little more than six million barrels of crude, accounting for less than 10 percent of domestic crude supply during the period. He said the state-owned Philippines National Oil Company (PNOC), of which he is Chairman, was selling the crude buyers here at 18.27 dollars a barrel, up by one dollar from the previous 17.27 since October 1. The Minister said the Nido oil price was increased to approximate prices set by the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC). Velasco said the Philippines during the past 10 months this year imported 61 million barrels of crude oil, up by eight percent during the same period last year, and forecast total importations for the whole year to reach 70 million barrels. [Text] Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 3 Dec 79 p 7]

ABACA SACKS--The abaca industry development authority (Aida) and the national cottage industry authority (Nacida) have signed a memorandum of agreement for the trial manufacture of grains and copra sacks with abaca fiber as main raw material. Both agencies intend to offer local sacks as a low-cost alternative to imported sacks. Annually, over 15 million sacks are bought by the rice, corn, and coconut industries. Less than 30 percent is supplied by local sackmakers. Tests conducted by the product development division of the AIDA reveal that abaca fiber lasts longer and has more tensile strength than sack materials like maguey and jute. Trial manufacture of the sacks made of pure abaca and abaca with kenaf fibers are now being undertaken at the Nacida's technological and development center in Marikina. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Dec 79 p 27]

CSO: 4220

THAI ECONOMY ENTERING DIFFICULT PERIOD

BK220838 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 22 Dec 79 p 9 BK

[Text] Krit Sombatsiri, secretary general of the National Development Board (NESDB) told the press conference yesterday that Thai economy next year is in a difficult position.

He said the inflation rate this year will be about 10.5 percent. This is due to the increases in trade deficit and the balance of payments deficit.

Krit said that the economic development of the country was in the transition period while the balance of payments deficit will be about 11,000 million baht.

He also said that export trades of the country will be on the downward trend. This indicated that the economic development of the country during 1980 will enter a critical position.

However, he said production growth rate of the country this year will be about 6.8 percent which was 12.0 percent less than the previous year. But the growth rate was close to the target of seven percent fixed by the fourth national economic and social development plan.

He said all the production sector had recorded an increase during the current year except for the agricultural production which marked a decline of 9.6 percent from the previous year due to drought.

The investment climate in the country was in a favourable condition, said Krit adding that investment projects during the first 9 months of this year was favourable.

A total of 51 investment projects calling a combined investment of 2,984 million baht were recorded during the period. This showed an increase of 63.8 percent over the corresponding period of last year.

He said further that exports of the country this year is expected to increase by 24 percent or about 103,000 million baht.

The products which contributed to the increase in export of the country included rubber, maize, tin, fresh shrimp, and industrial products, Krit said.

Though the export of the country has increased considerably, the imports will historically increase by about 29 percent or 140,000 million baht compared to the increase by 15.6 percent in the previous year.

The increasing imports will lead to the trade deficit of the country to as high as 37,000 million baht by the end of this year.

Krit said that exports of the country next year will be about 115,000 million baht. However, the imports will be much higher than exports at 175,000 million baht, which will lead to the huge trade deficit of the country. The trade deficit next year will be as high as 60,000 million baht.

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BRIEFS

TRADE WITH USSR--Trade volume between the Soviet Union and Thailand increased 2.3 fold during the first 6 months of this year as against the same period last year, USSR Trade Counsellor to Thailand, Boris M. Levin said. The two-way trade reached some 810 million baht in the first half of this year, he said. The Soviets this year bought a considerable amount of rice and maize and increased their traditional imports of fluorite from Thailand. On the other hand, Soviet exports to Thailand also grew, particularly tractors, metal cutting machine-tools, bearings, pulp and medicine, oxygen producting equipment and compressors. [Bangkok THE BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 79 p 23 BK]

DUTCH, EEC, FRG AID--The Government of the Netherlands has granted $541,700 in aid to Thailand for use in setting up a fish rearing site in Kalasin Province, according to the deputy director general of the fishery department. Meanwhile the EEC and the FRG have decided to extend 348 million baht in grants for economic development in Thailand. A 200 million baht grant from the FRG will be used for purchasing semifinished products, machinery, chemicals and other goods for development projects, while the EEC grant will go toward agricultural development projects, which include a bean development project, a high-yield rubber plantation project, a tapioca replacement scheme in the northeast and the water pumping project at Pha Mong Dam. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 7 Dec 79 BK]

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY WITH LAOS--Thailand and Laos have agreed to launch a joint hydrographic survey in the Mekong River during January 1980. This agreement was reached at a recent meeting between Thai and Lao hydrographic authorities at Nong Khai. [BK281321 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 26 Nov 79 BK]

RELATIONS WITH ECUADOR--Cabinet on 13 November endorsed a Foreign Ministry recommendation that the Thai Government establish diplomatic relations with Ecuador. The recommendation of the Foreign Ministry was based on the fact that Ecuador is a member of OPEC and the nonaligned movement and is also a moderate state as far as politics is concerned. Considering the Ecuador's stance in favour of the ASEAN's resolution on the developments in Kampuchea, the Foreign Ministry suggested that the Thai Government should establish diplomatic ties with the Latin American country within an appropriate time. The overture was initiated by the ambassador of Ecuador in the United Nations, Cabinet was told. [BK190901 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 15 Nov 79 p 3 BK]

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